



LAND OF THE LUSTROUS

4

HARUKO ICHIKAWA

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4

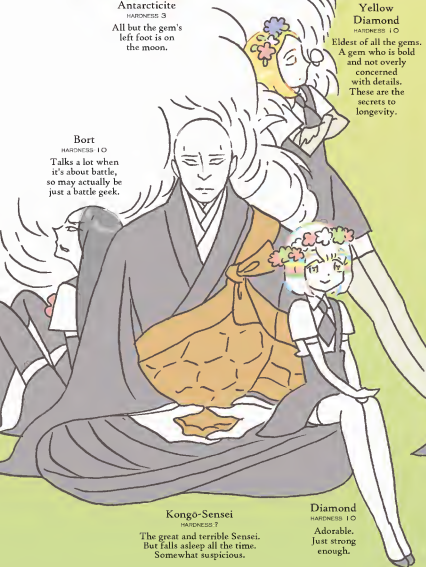
HARUKO ICHIKAWA



CHARACTER INTRODUCTIONS



Antarcticite
HARDNESS 3
All but the gem's left foot is on the moon.



Kongo-Sensei
HARDNESS 7

The great and terrible Sensei. But falls asleep all the time. Somewhat suspicious.

Diamond
HARDNESS 10
Adorable. Just strong enough.

Yellow Diamond
HARDNESS 10

Elder of all the gems. A gem who is bold and not overly concerned with details. These are the secrets to longevity.



Zircon
HARDNESS 7.5
Very responsible. A junior partner among junior partners.



Jade
HARDNESS 7
President. Extremely responsible.

Euclase
HARDNESS 7.5
Secretary. Can forecast the weather with 83% accuracy.



Rutile
HARDNESS 6
Sexy legs. A bit on the mad side.

Phosphophyllite
HARDNESS 3.5
The hero of our story. Has now lost both hands, and feels as if the soul will be the next to go. That's all.

Amethyst
HARDNESS 7
Apparently sometimes even they don't know who's who.

Cinnabar
HARDNESS 2
The night watcher. As solitary and isolated as ever. Ops not to wear the summer uniform to avoid getting it dirty.

Red Beryl
HARDNESS 7.5
Style is life. Style is love. Exhausted from making too many flower accessories.



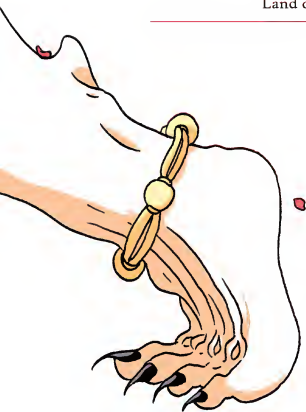
Obsidian
HARDNESS 5
Rather flighty, but is in charge of weapons, believe it or not.

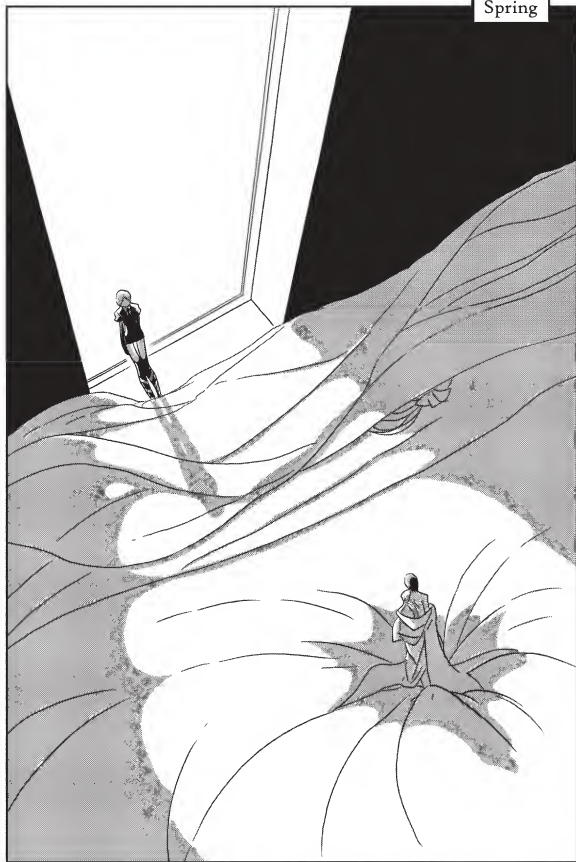
Alexandrite
HARDNESS 8.5
Not just a Lunarian research enthusiast. There is a secret behind the mania.

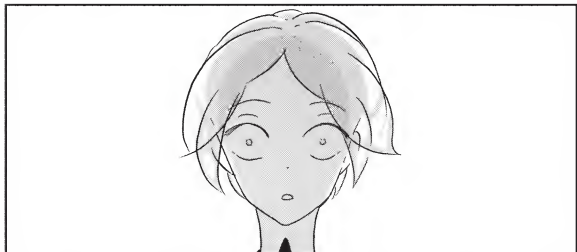


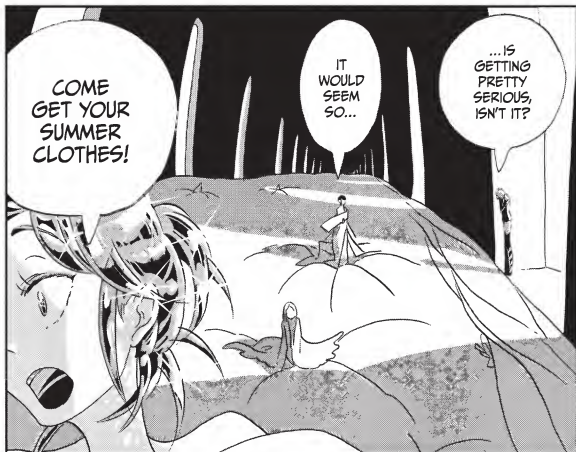
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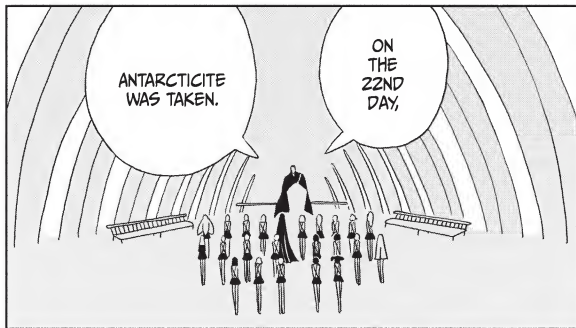
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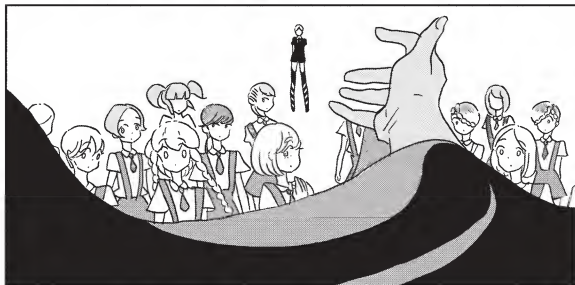
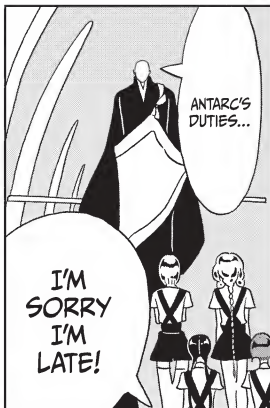


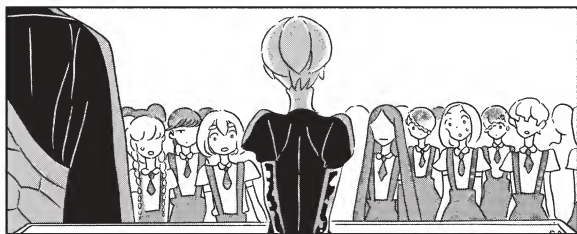
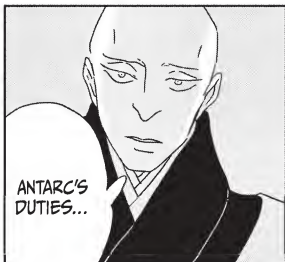
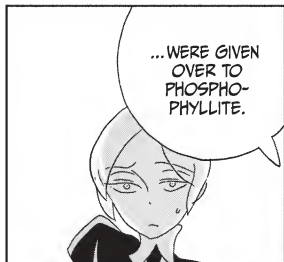


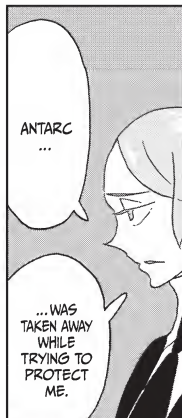


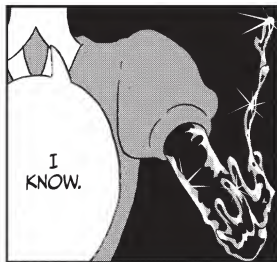
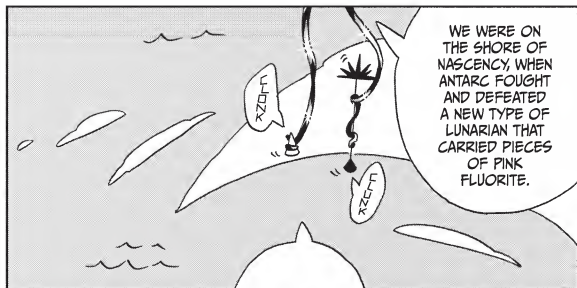


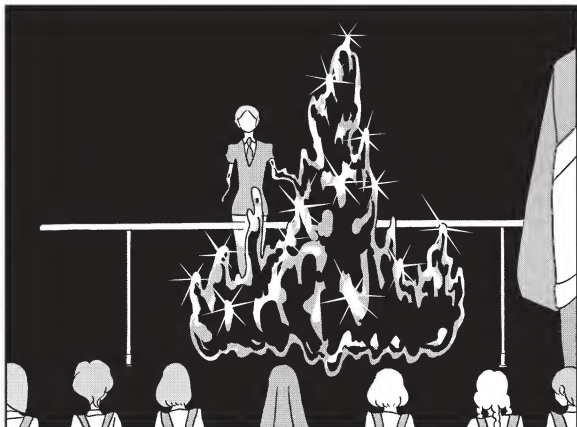


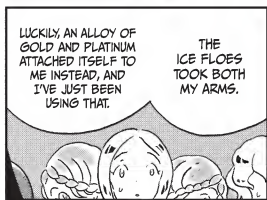
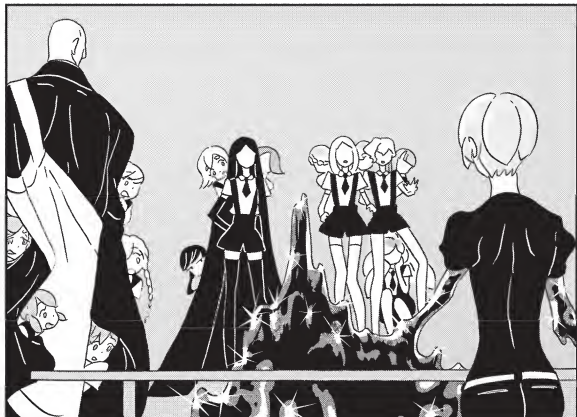


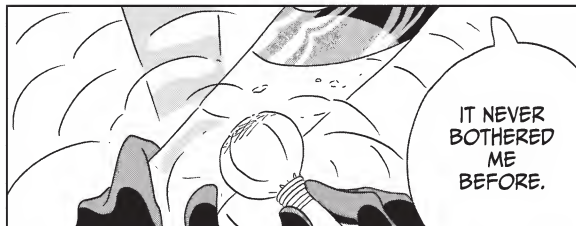
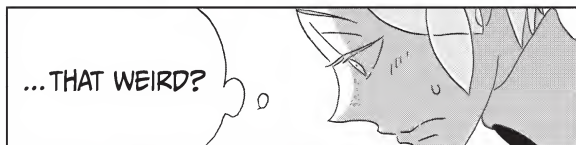
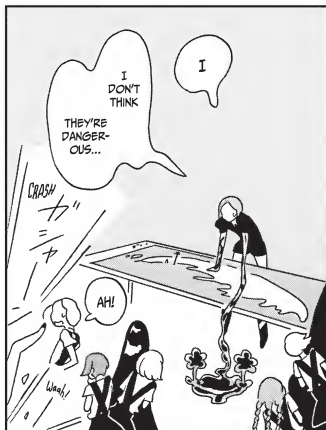


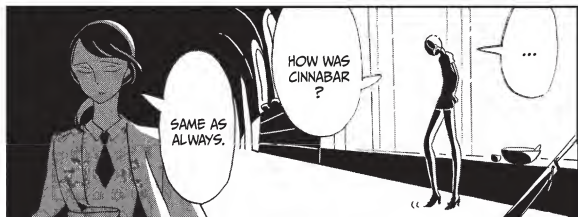
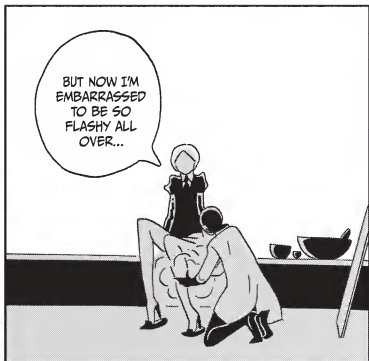


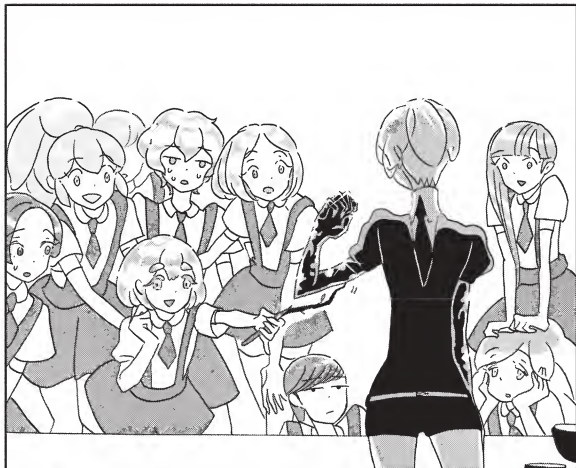












WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA HERE?
YOUR WINTER CLOTHES ARE
IN SHREDS, AND NOW YOU
HAVE A NEW FIGURE?!
I HAVE TO REMAKE YOUR
ENTIRE SUMMER OUTFIT!

AND
DON'T GO
CHANGING
YOUR HAIR
WITHOUT
CONSULTING
ME!

EX-
CUSE
ME
!

BUT
IT
WEARS
ME
OUT
...

IT'S SO
SOFT!

OOH!

YOUR
ENTIRE
LOOK IS
BASED
ON MY
MENTAL
IMAGE OF
YOU!

Creepy
!

AWESOME!!

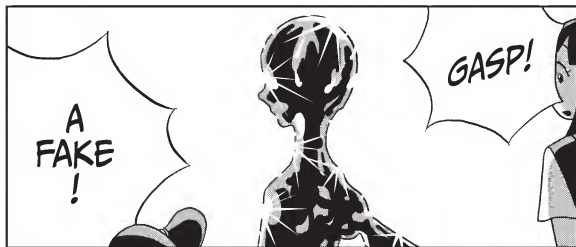
Ugh!

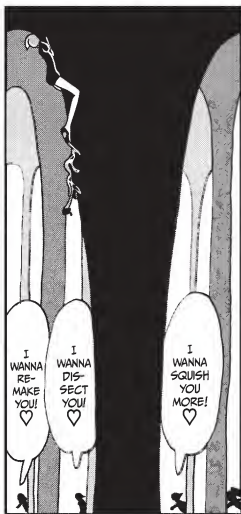
So
cool!

What
are
those
heels?

HAVING ALL THAT
ALLOY INSIDE
WOULD MAKE ANY
GEM BIGGER.

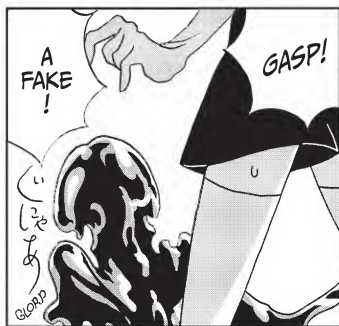
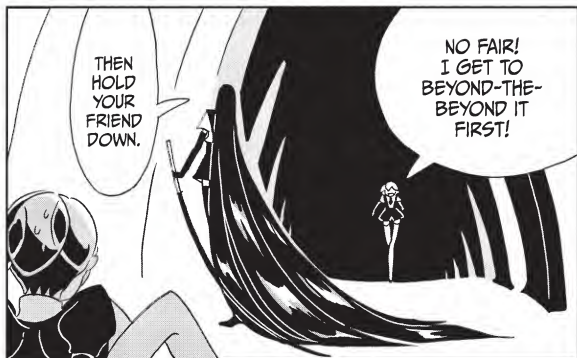
I
KNEW
IT!
YOU
ARE
TALLER!

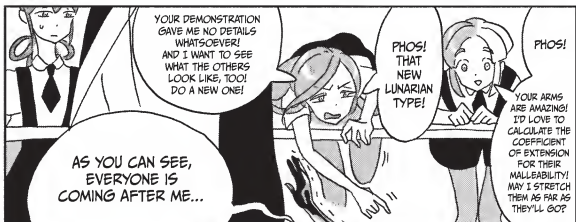
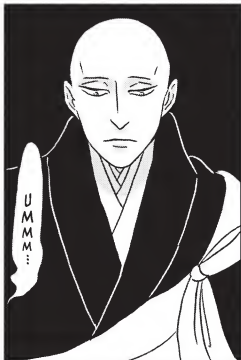
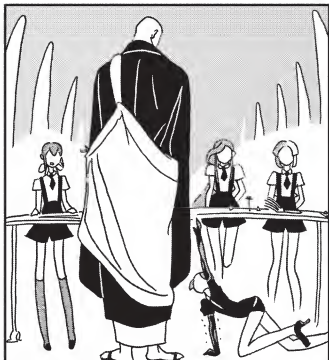


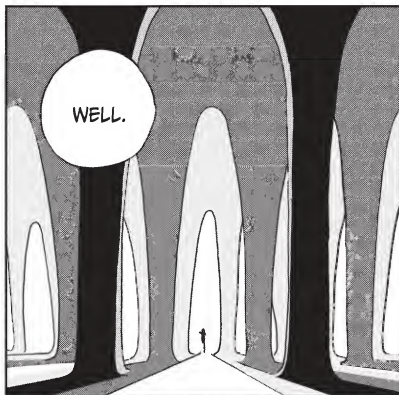


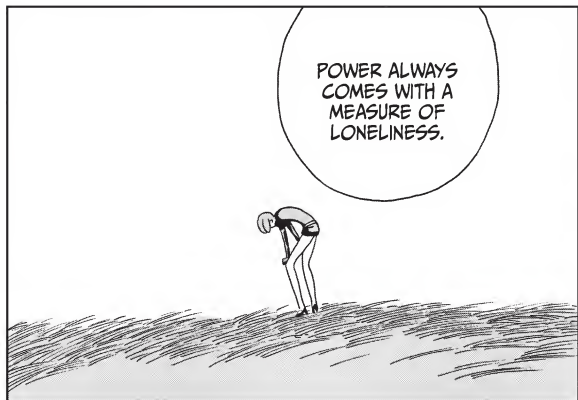


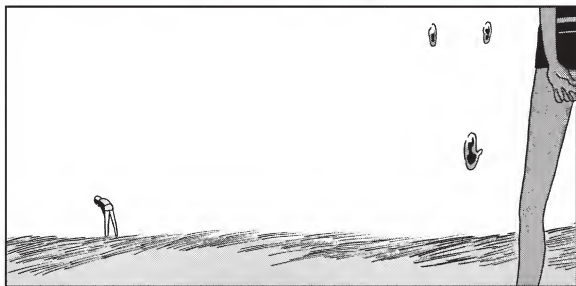
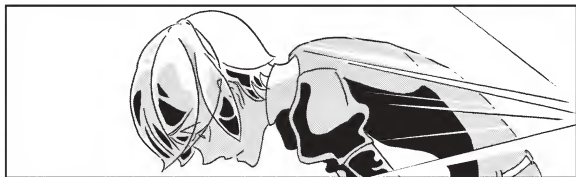
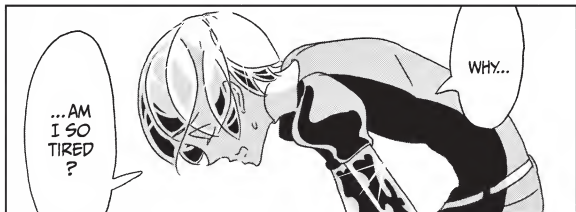


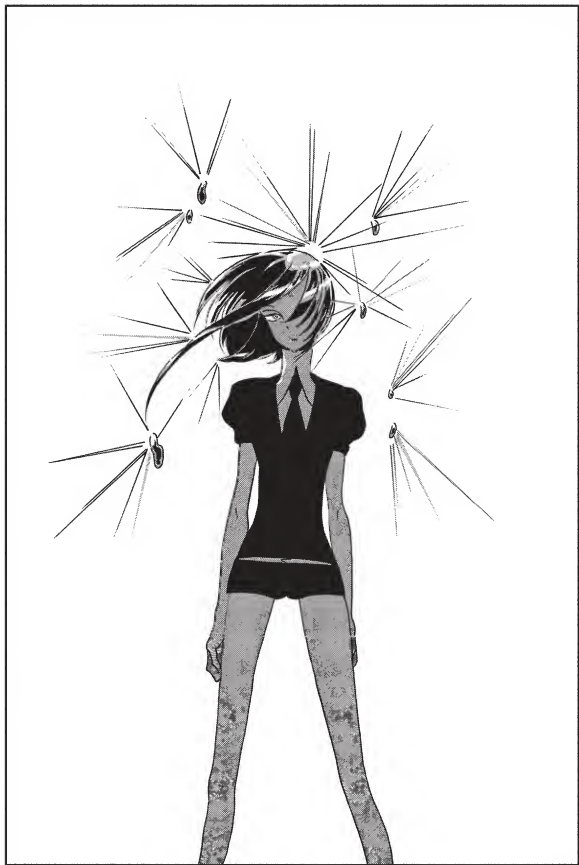




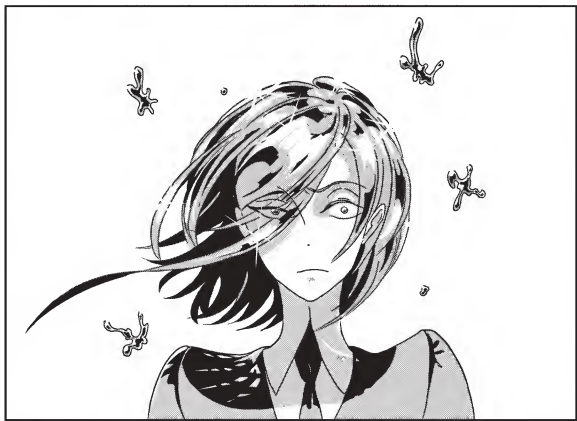


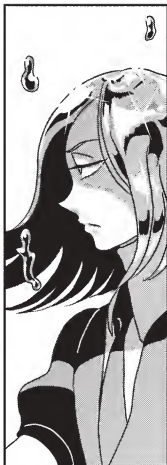
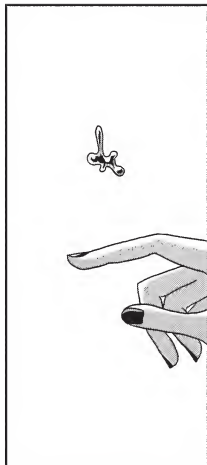


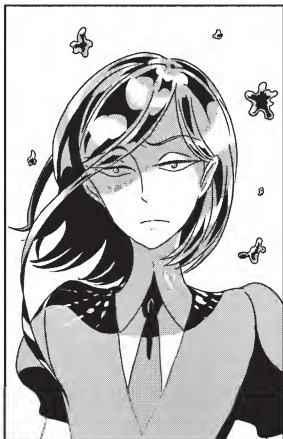


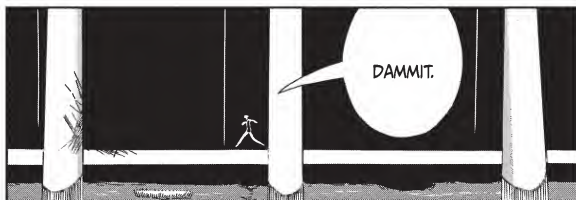
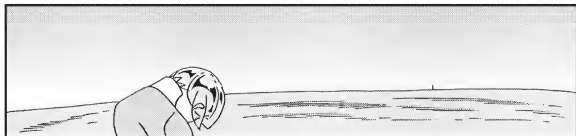
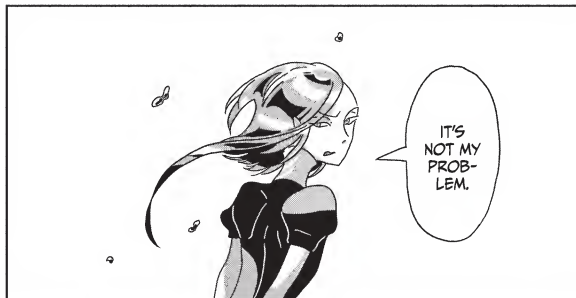


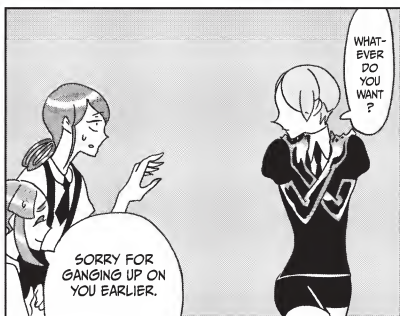
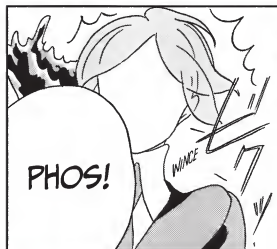


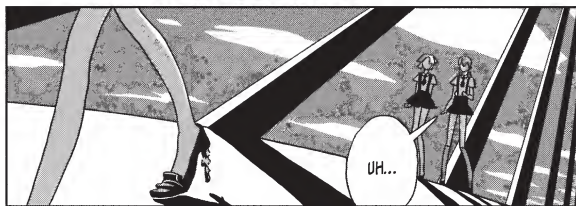
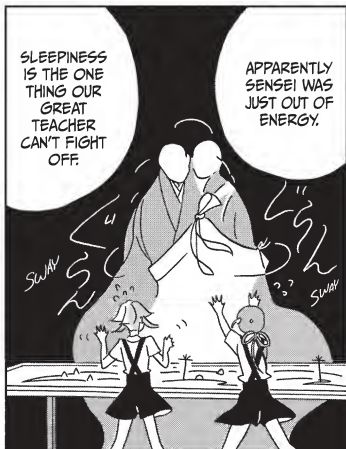


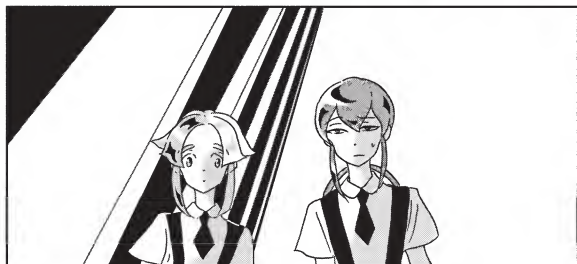


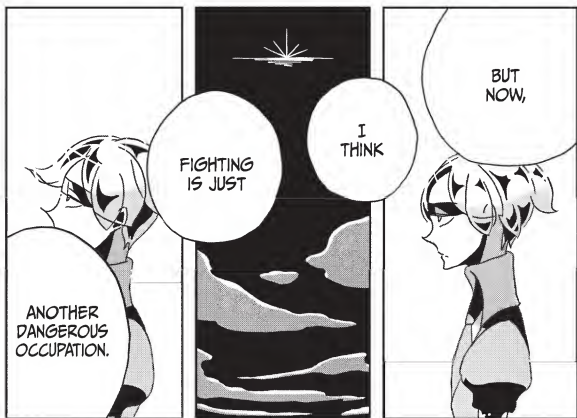


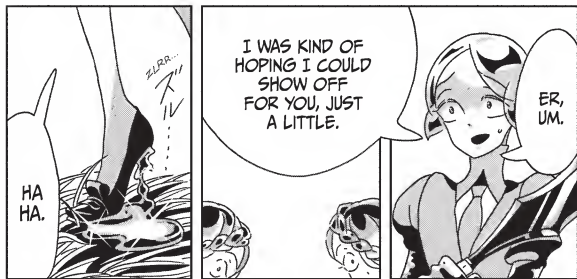
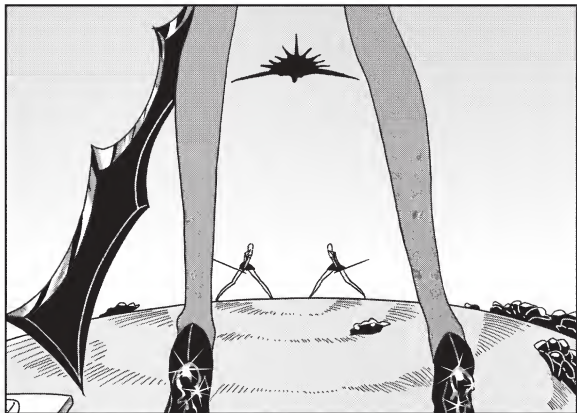


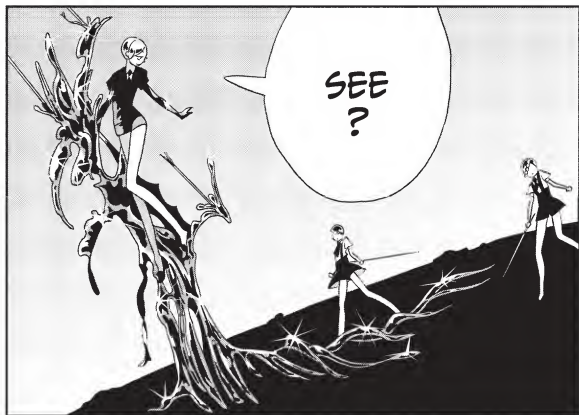


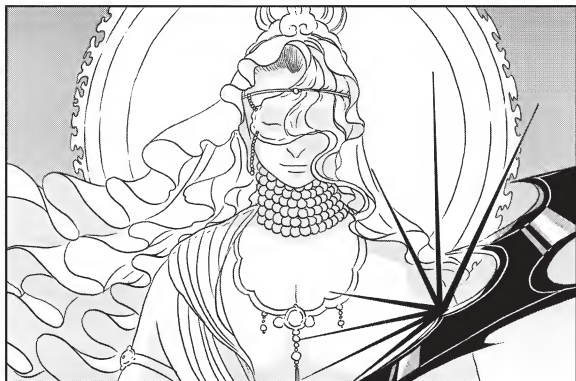


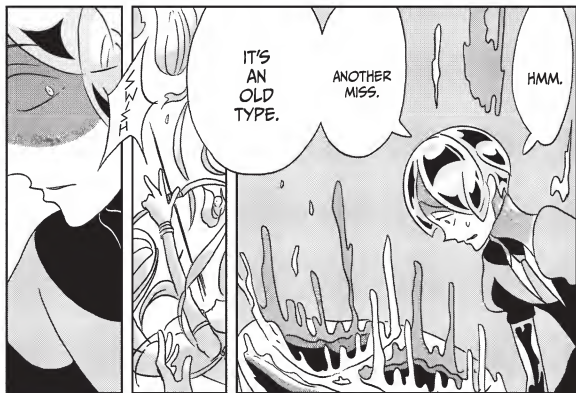
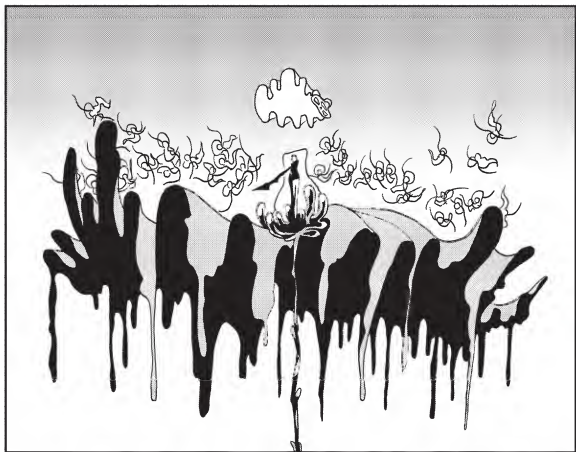


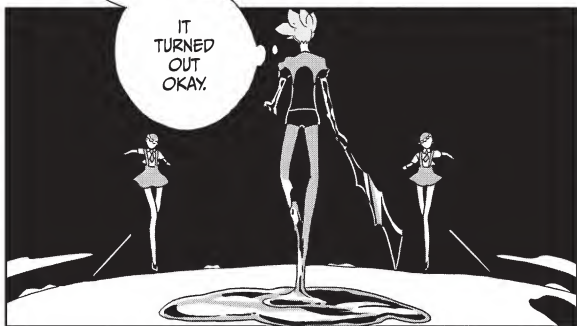


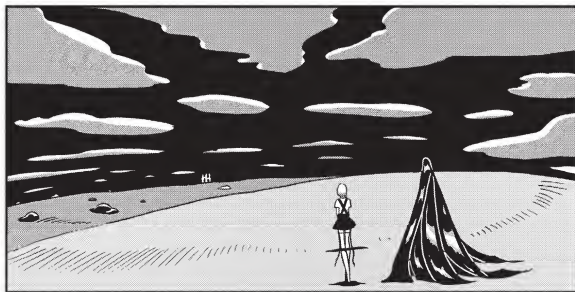
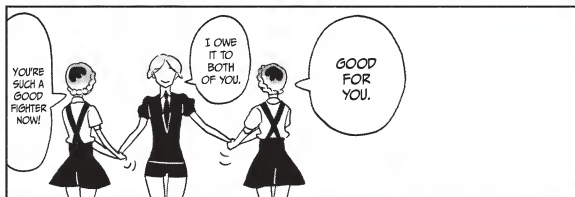
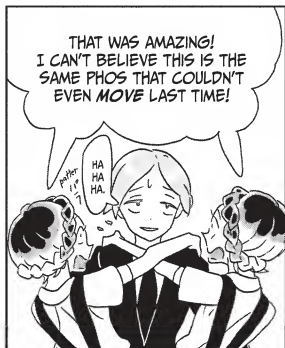


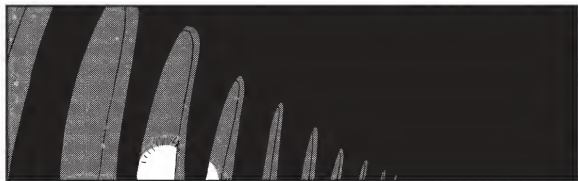
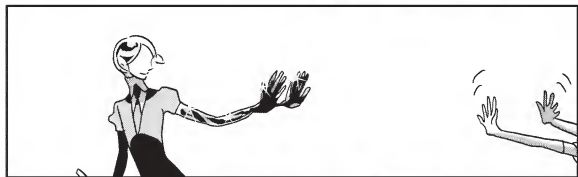


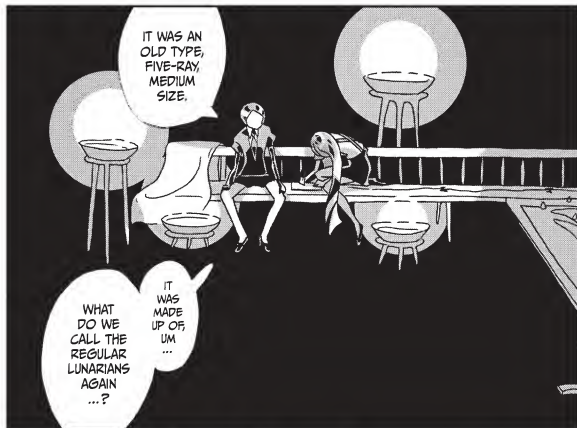


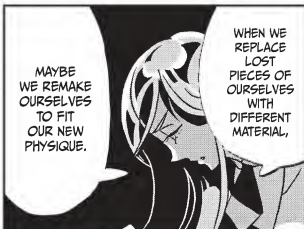


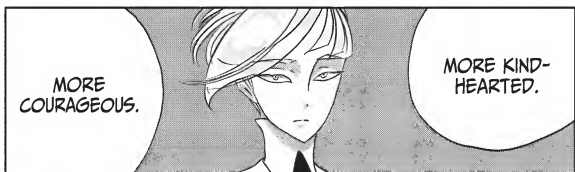
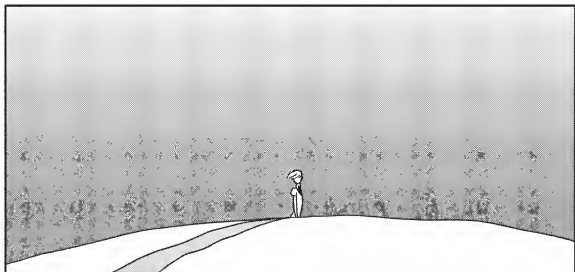


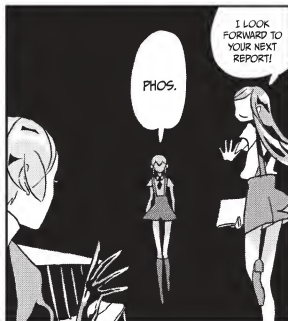










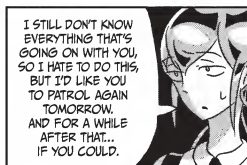


I LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR NEXT REPORT!



IT MUST BE TOUGH, WORKING SO LATE.

ALL DONE! WHAT DO YOU THINK ?!

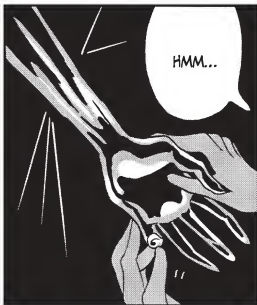
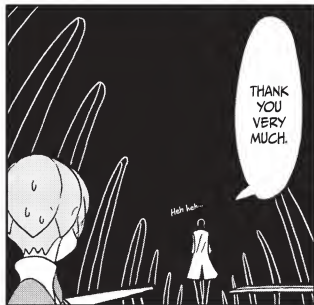
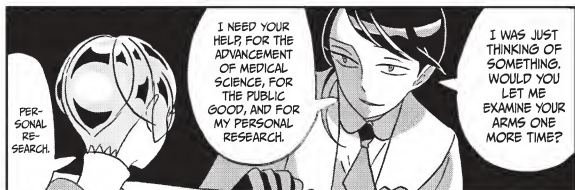
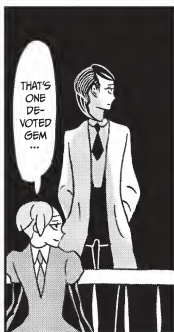


OH...

YEAH, BUT I DO NOT OFF.



NO PROBLEM!

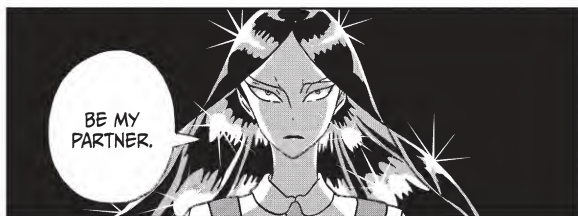


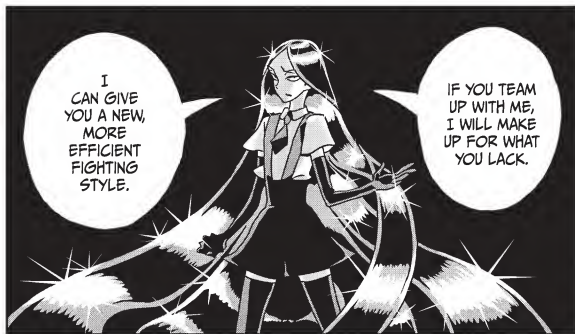
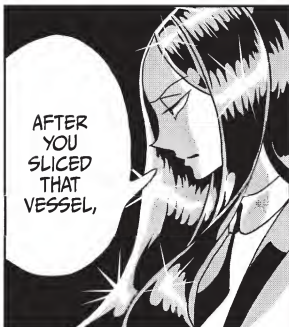


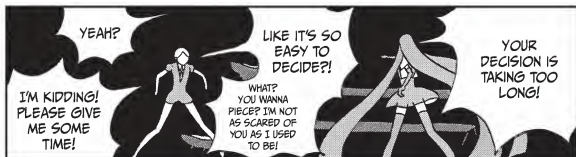
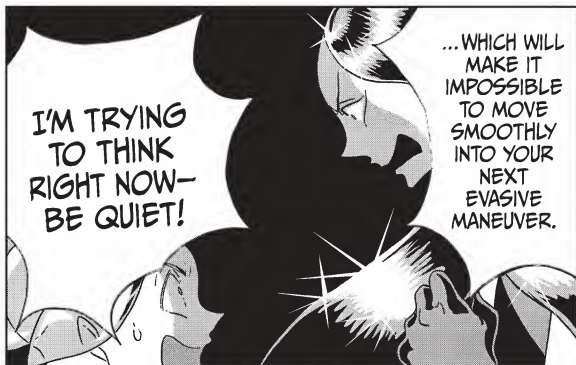
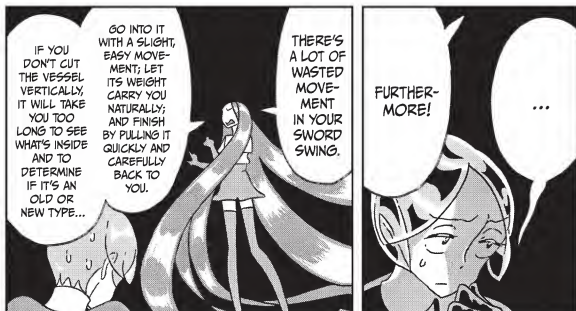




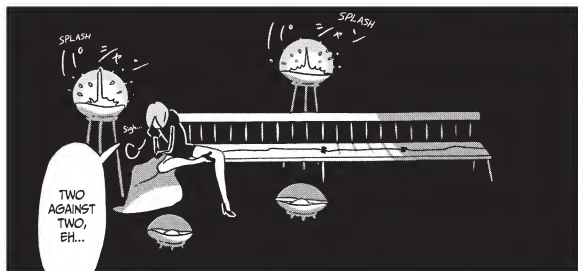
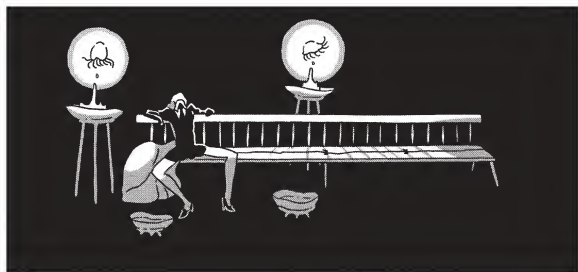
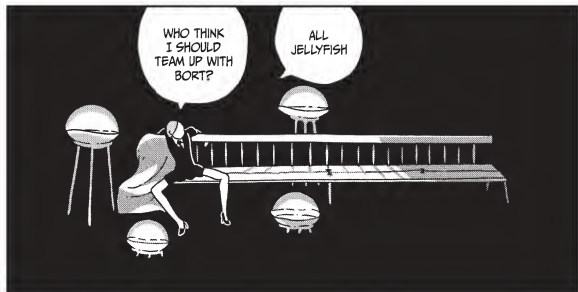


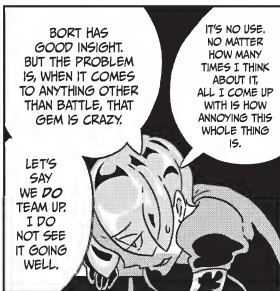


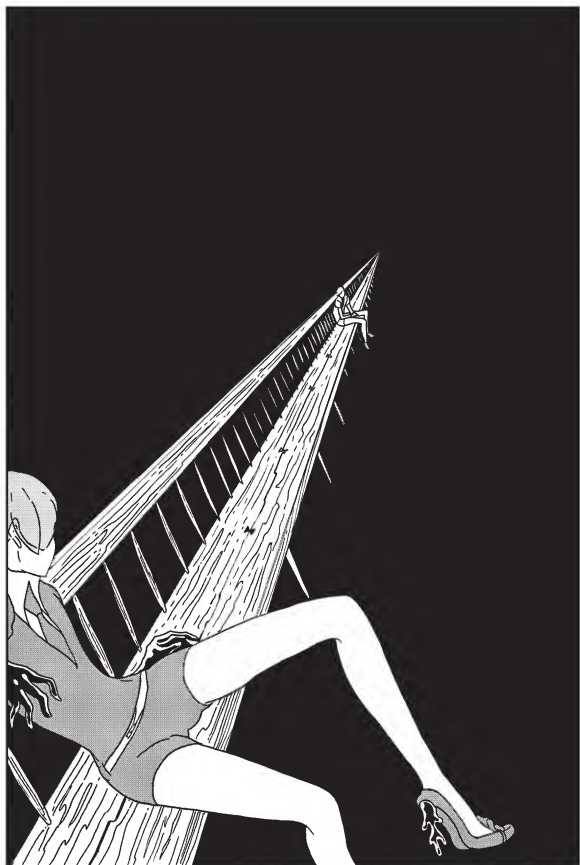


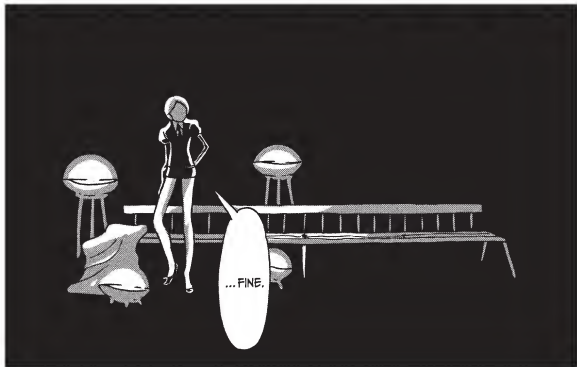


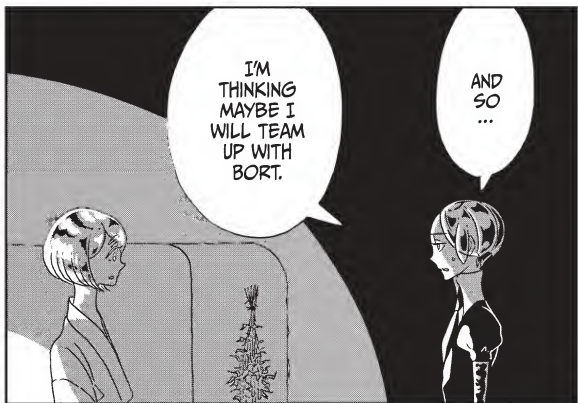


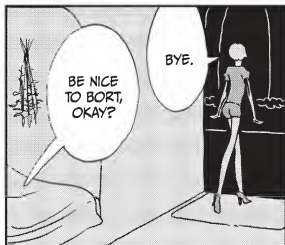
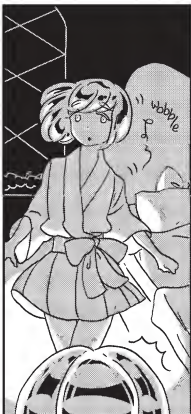
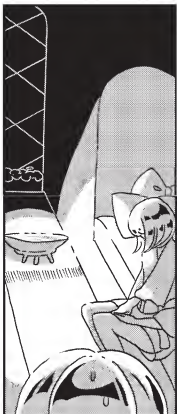
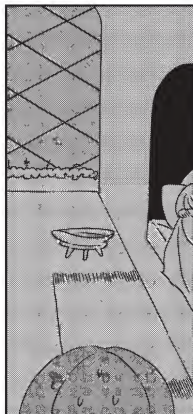


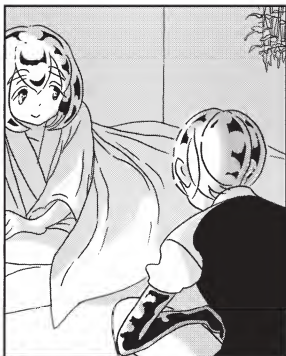
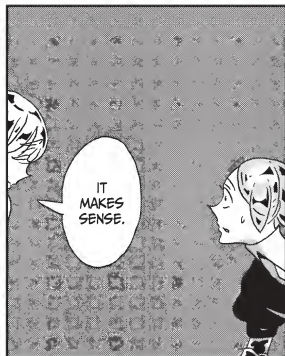




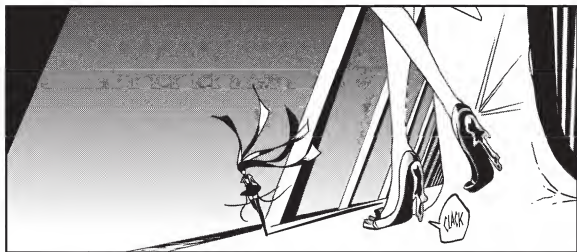
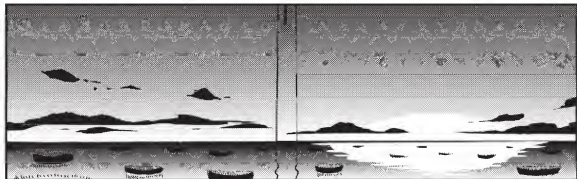


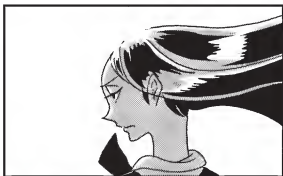


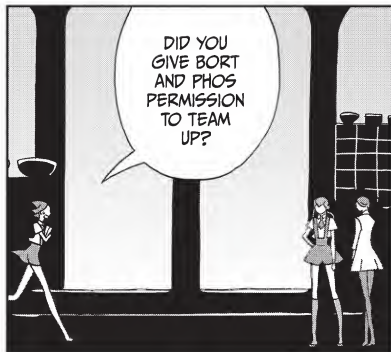


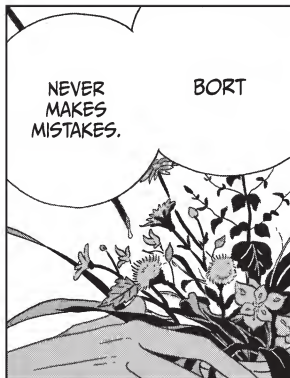


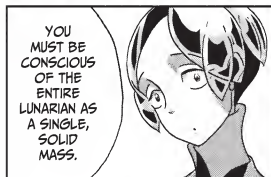
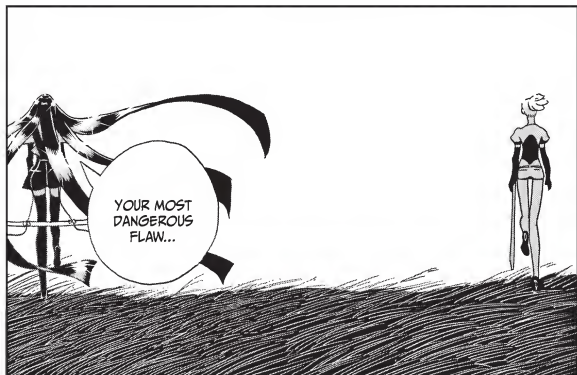












ONCE
YOU'VE GRASPED
THAT CONCEPT,
THEN, TO A DEGREE,
YOU CAN PREDICT THE
INSTANT YOU NEED TO
THICKEN YOUR METAL
MEMBRANE, AND
YOU WON'T USE
UP SO MUCH
STAMINA.

THEY TAKE
THE ARROWS,
NOCK THEM TO
THEIR BOWS,
AND FIRE.
THINK OF THE
ENTIRE
SEQUENCE
AS A WAVE.



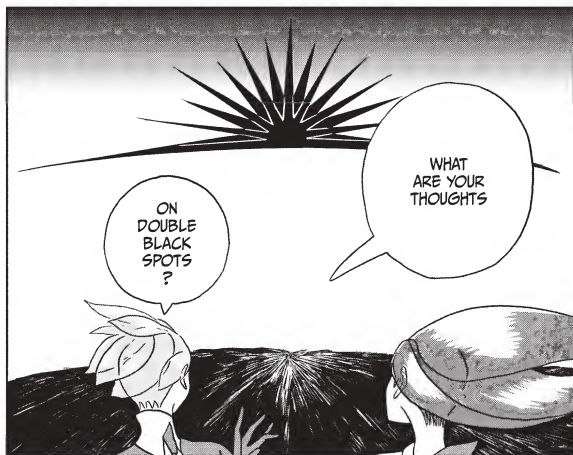
YOU'VE



ABOUT
ME,
HAVEN'T
YOU?

THOUGHT
A LOT







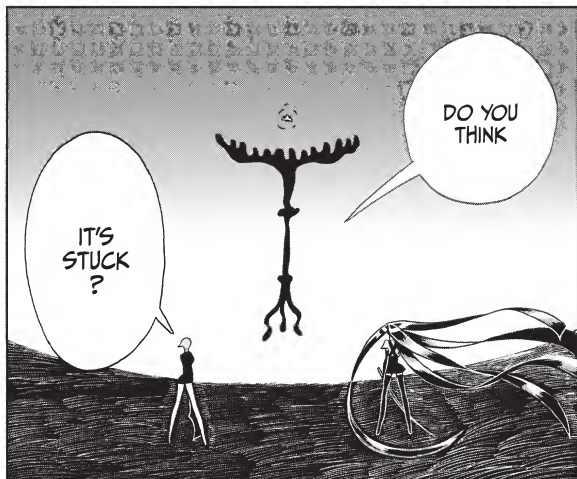


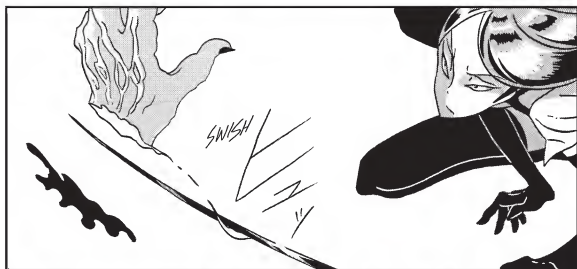
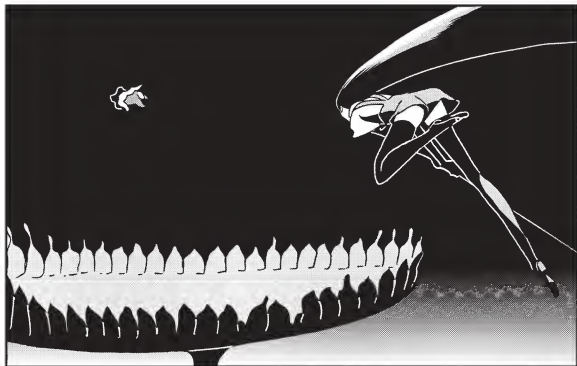


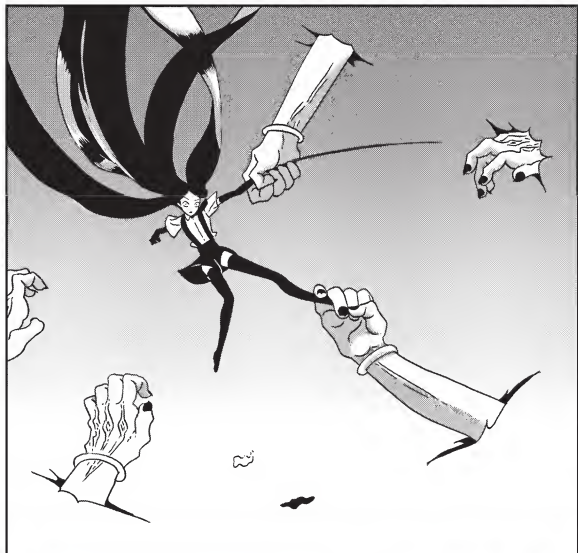
EEP!

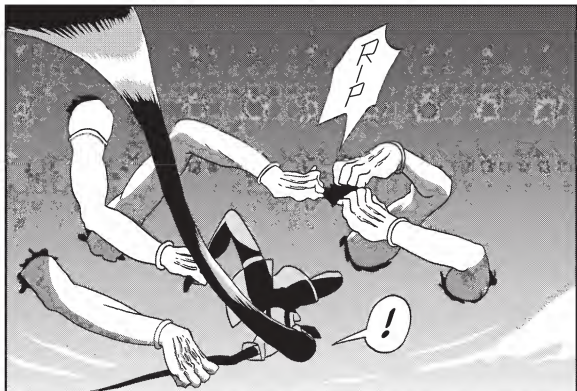


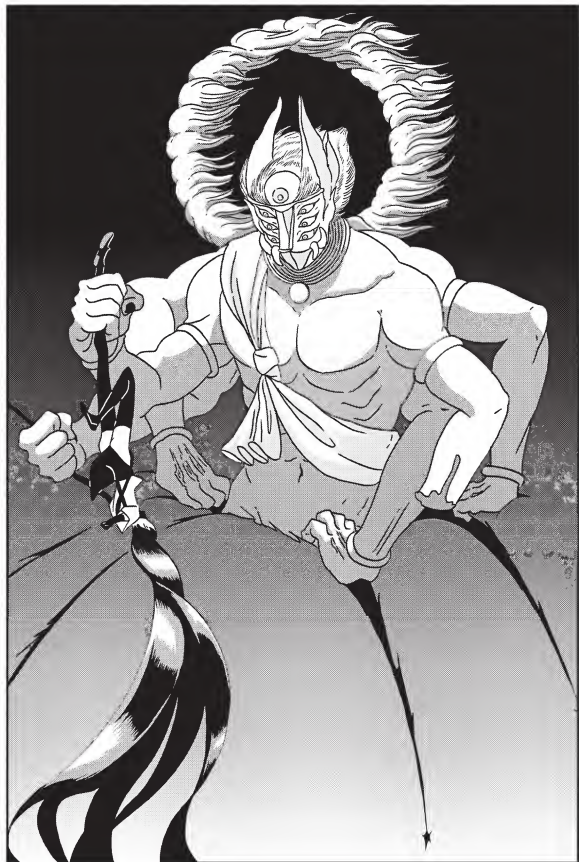


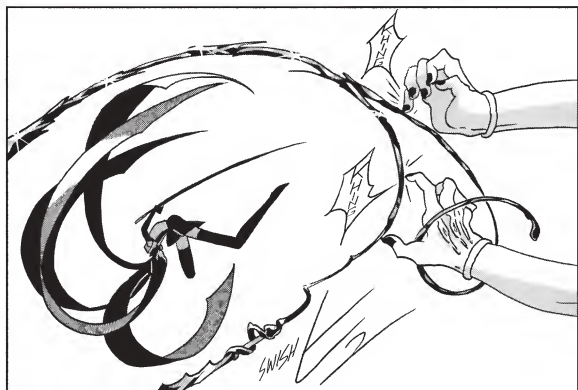
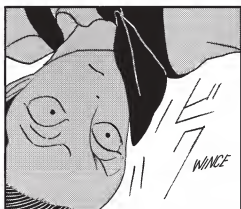
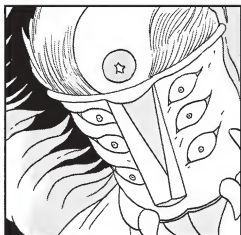


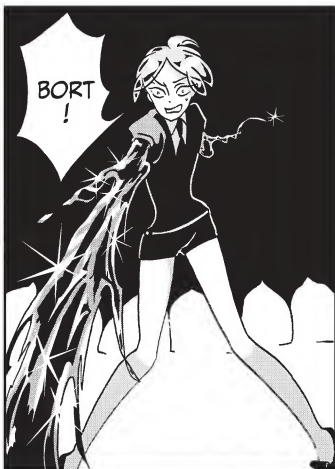


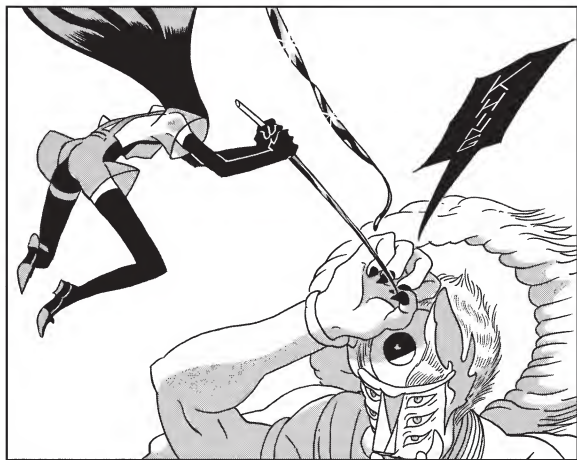
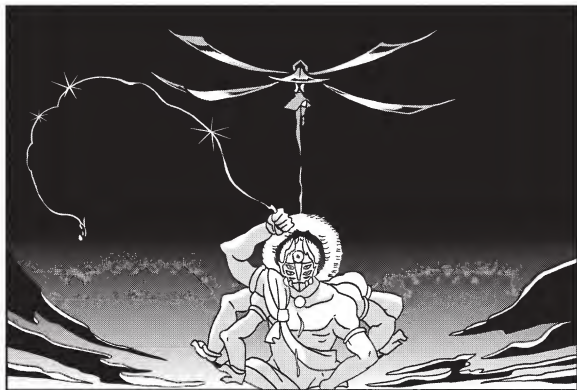


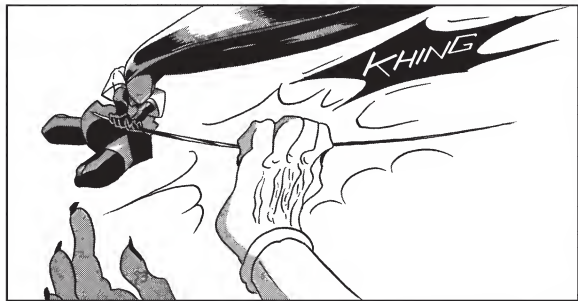




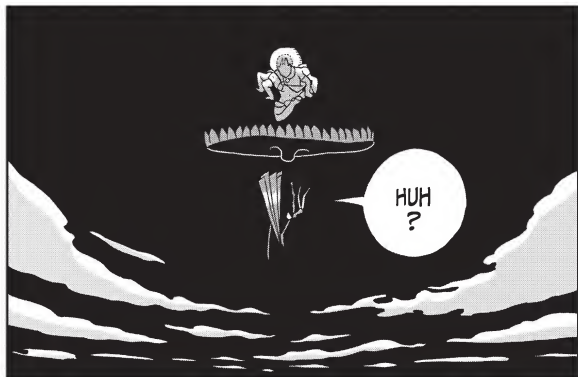




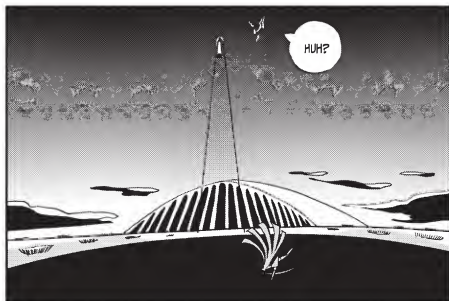




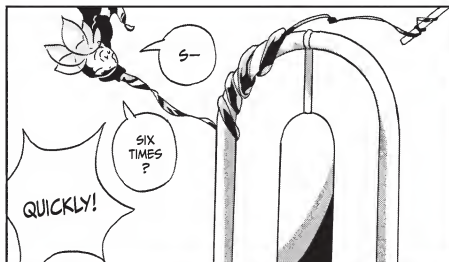






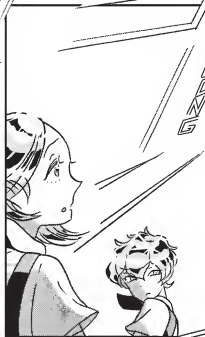


RING
THE
BELL
SIX
TIMES.



GNN





SIX CHIMES IS THE SIGNAL TO STAY WHERE YOU ARE AND WAIT FOR INSTRUCTIONS.

HERE IT COMES.

WE'RE GOING TO DRAW IT AFTER US AND GO WAKE UP SENSEI.

HUH?

IF WE BRING EVERYONE TOGETHER AND COMBINE OUR STRENGTH, THEN SOMEHOW WE CAN...

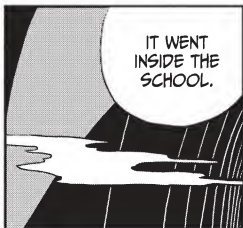
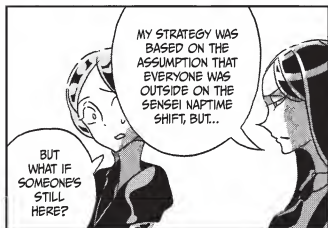
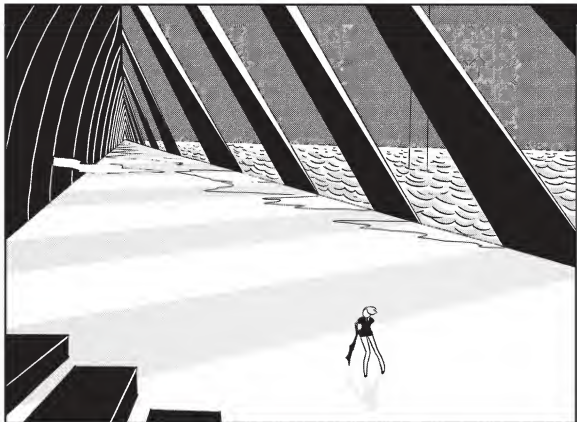
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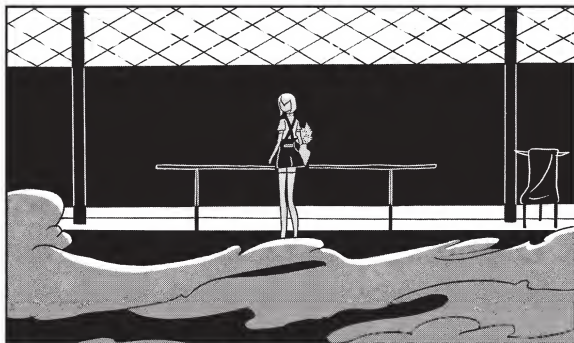
WHAT ARE YOU BABBLING ABOUT?

?



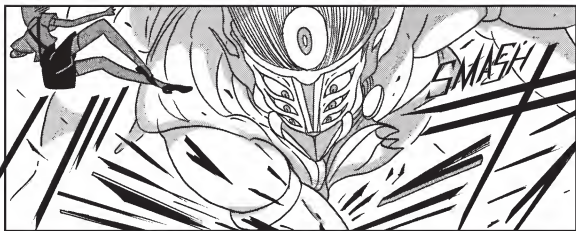
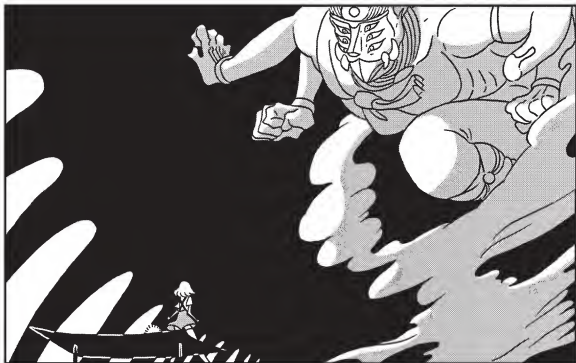


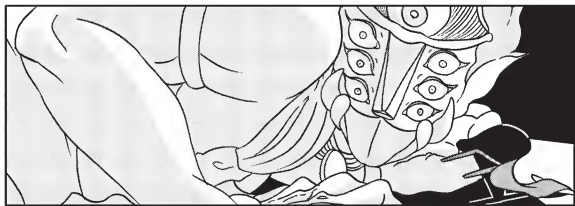
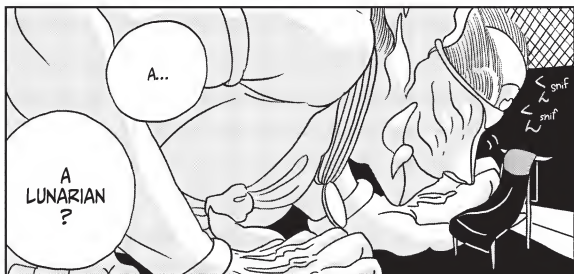


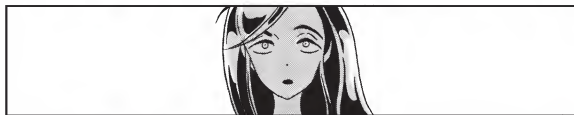
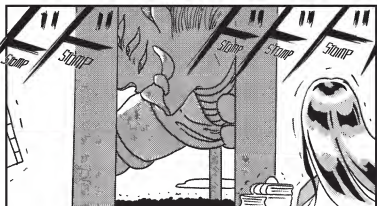


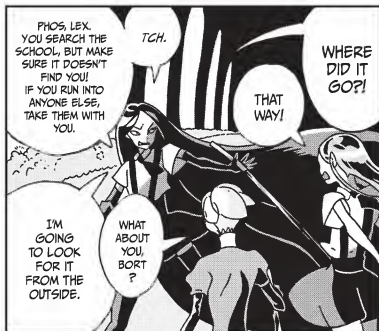


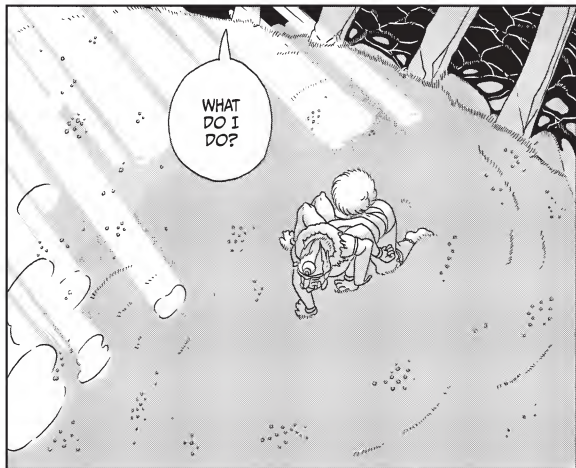


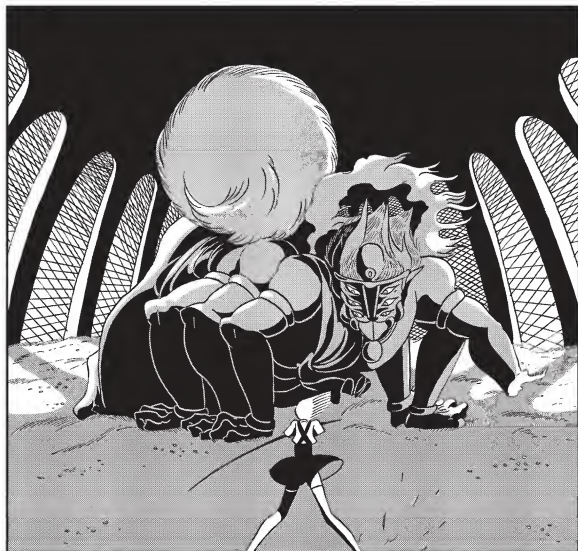


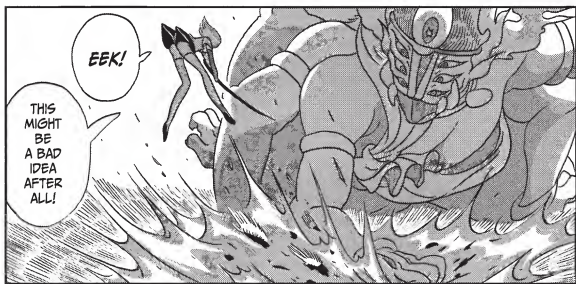


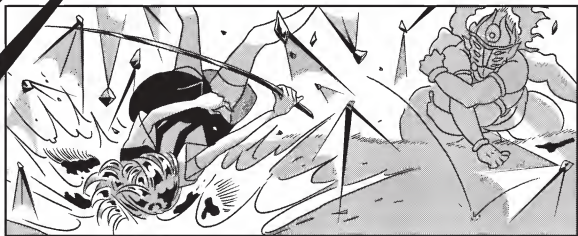
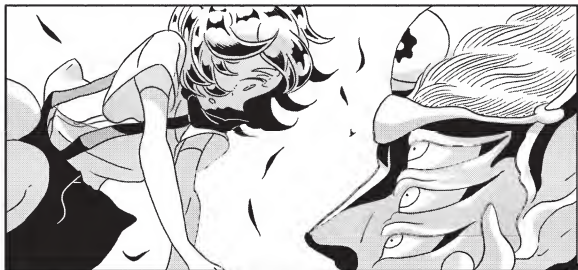


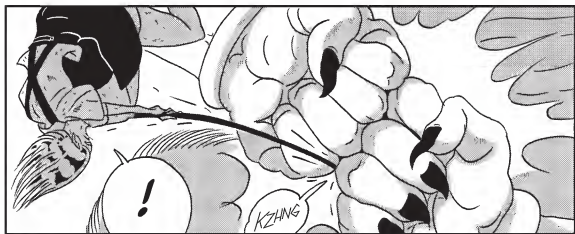
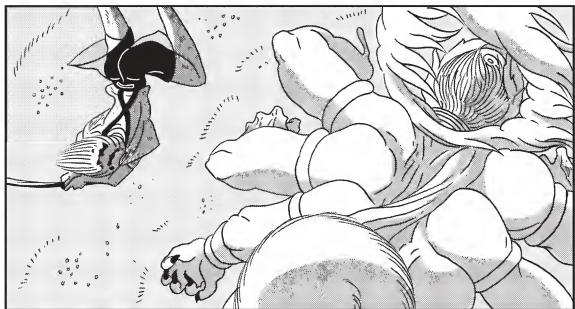
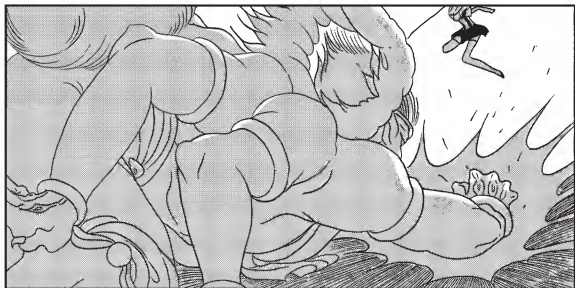


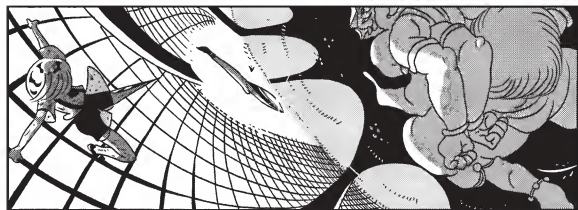
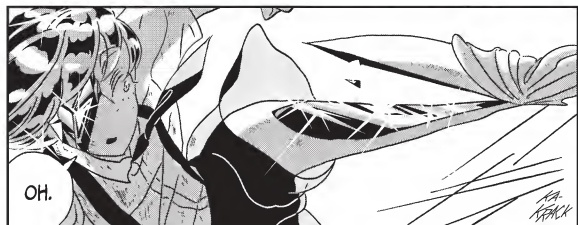
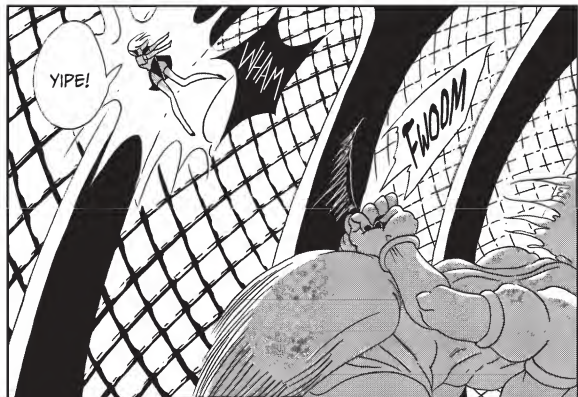


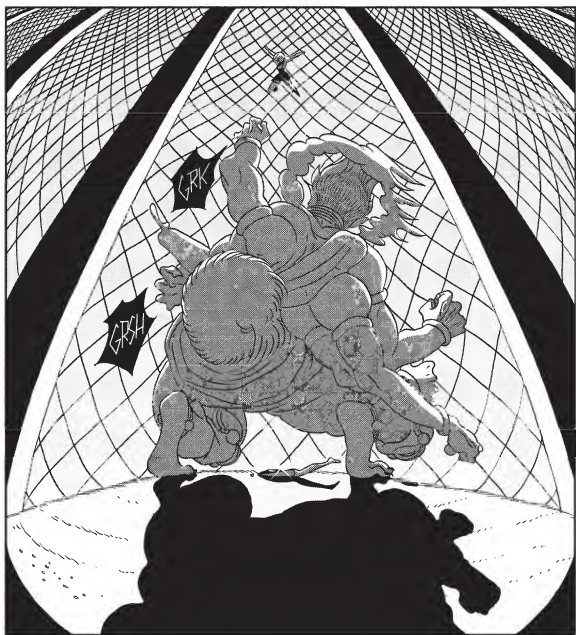
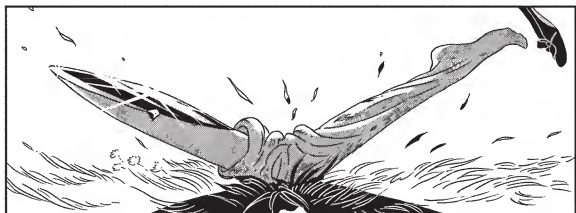


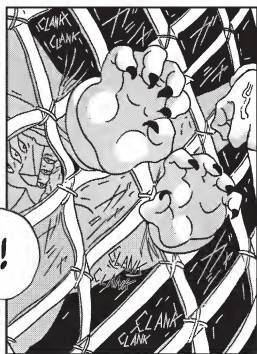
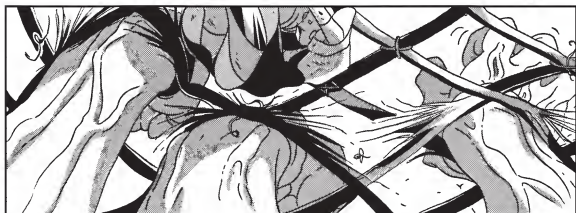
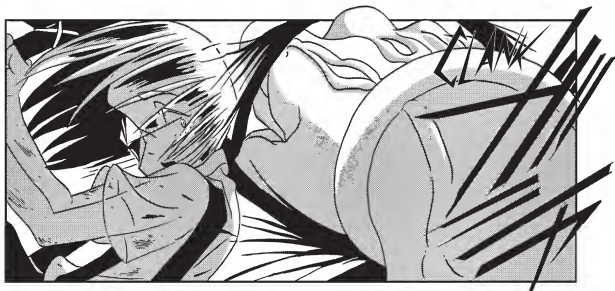


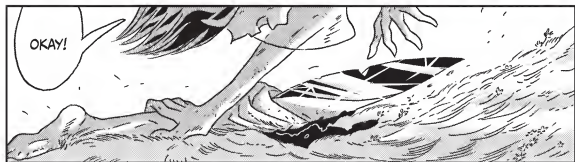


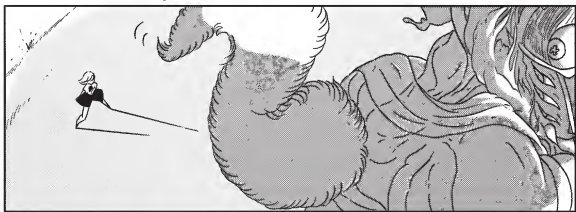
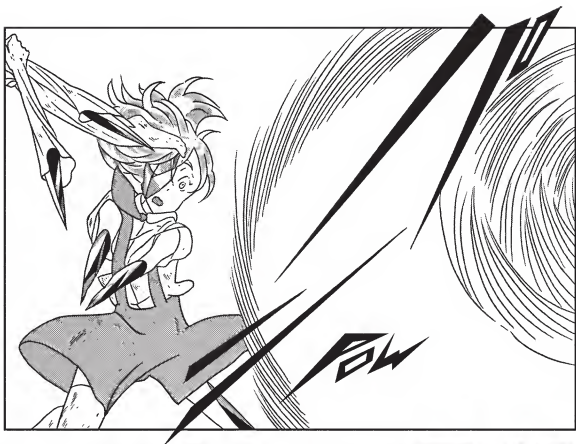






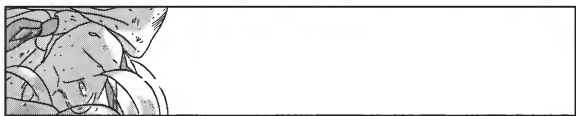
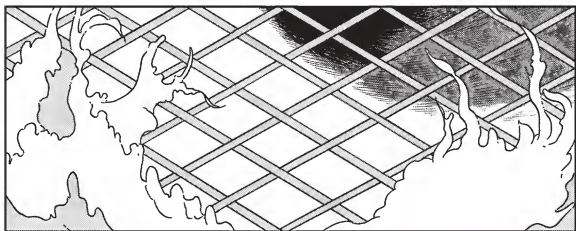
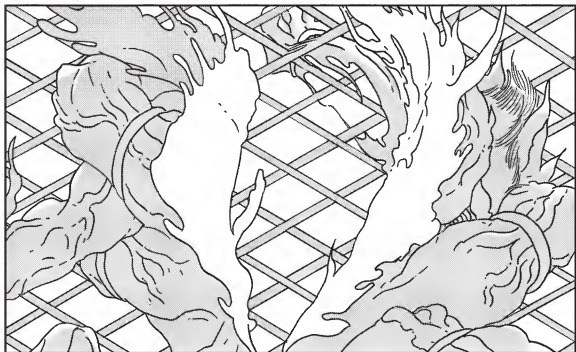


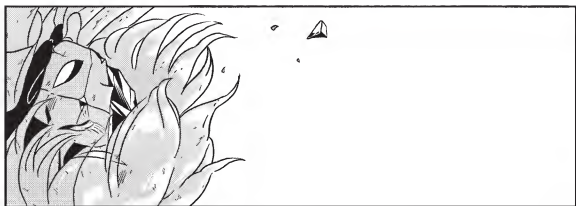
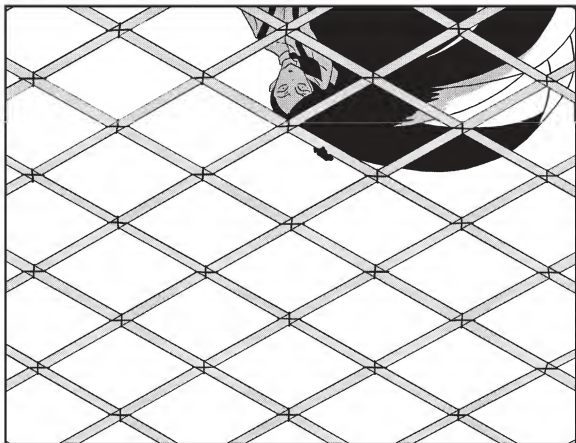




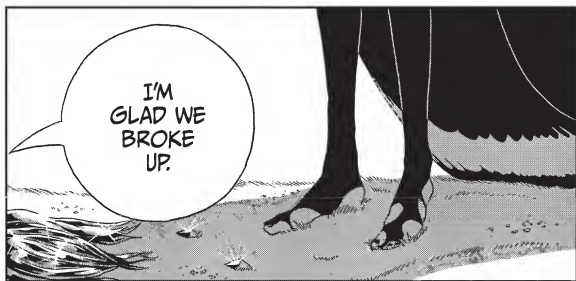




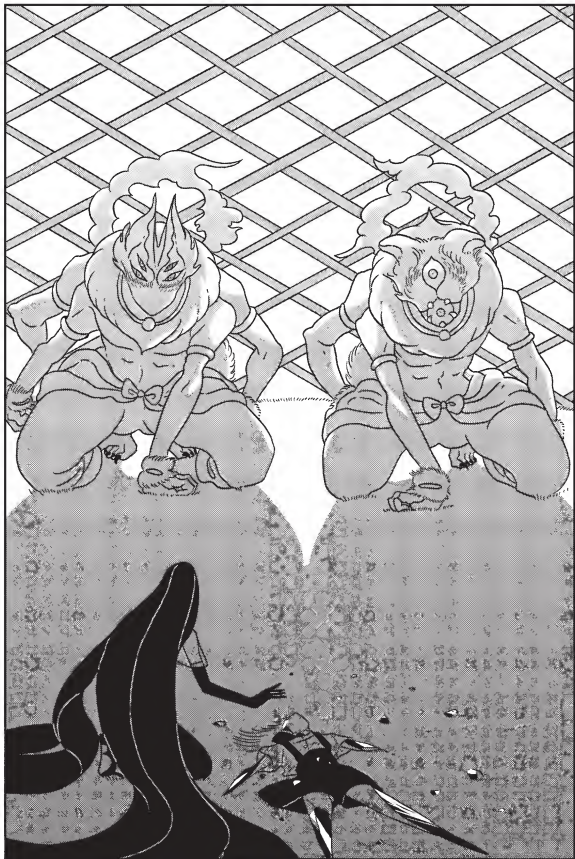




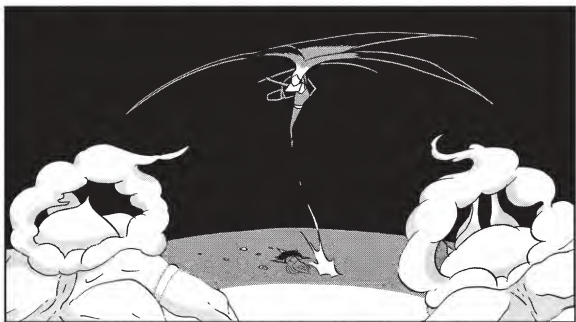


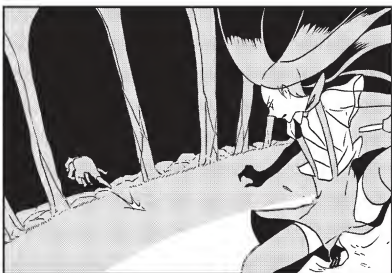
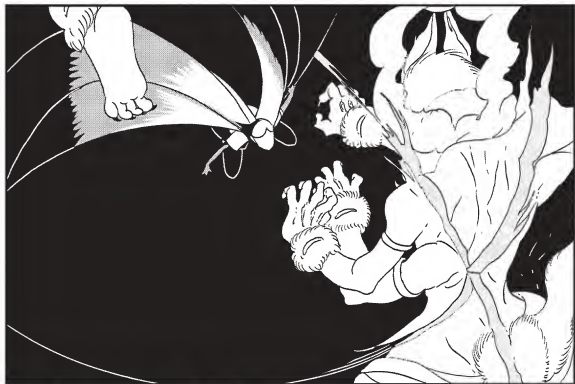


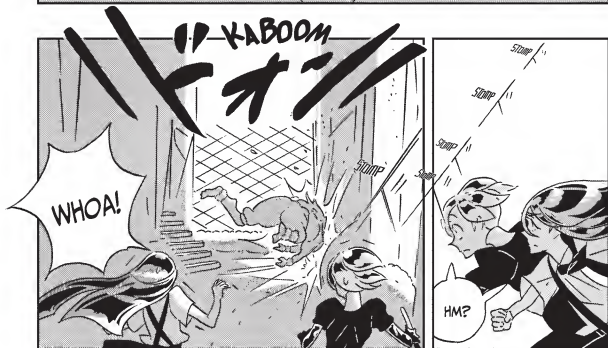
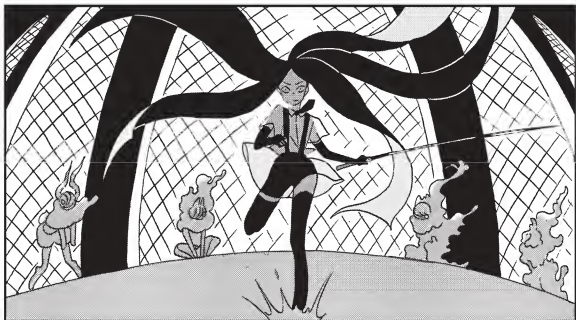


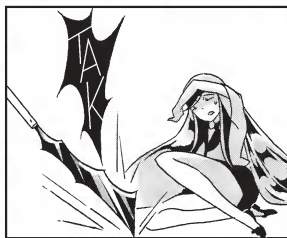
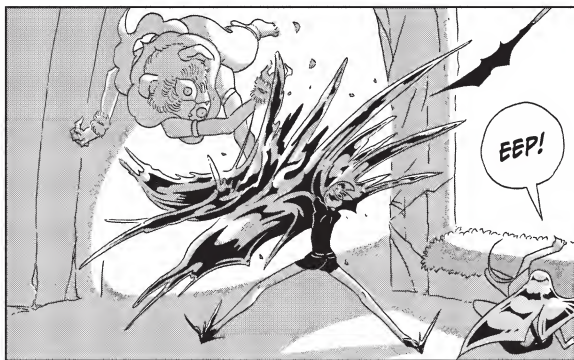
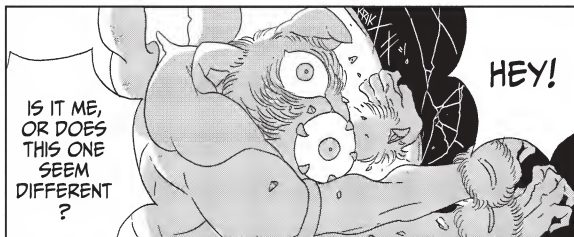




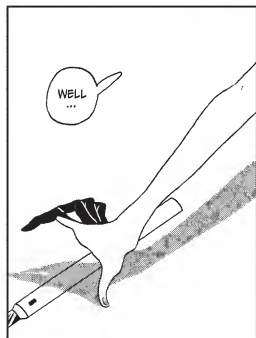
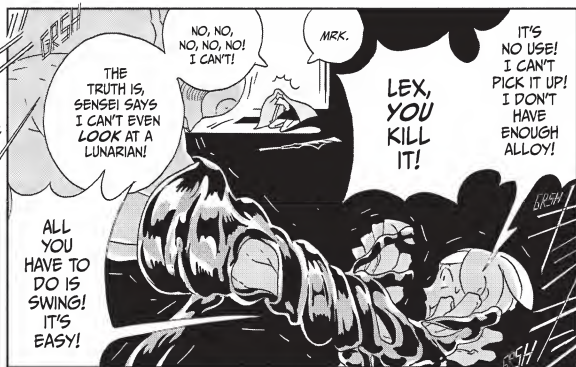


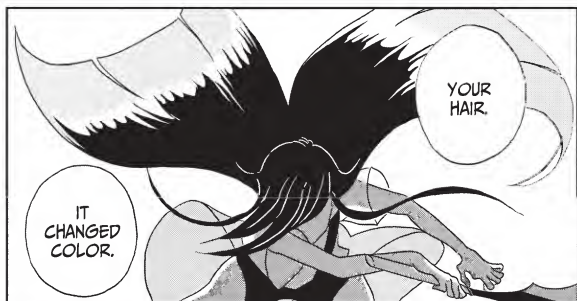


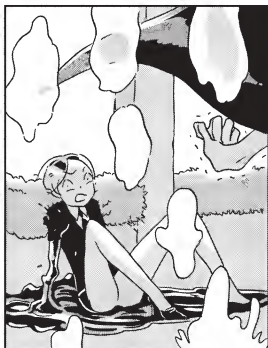
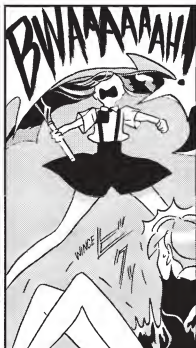




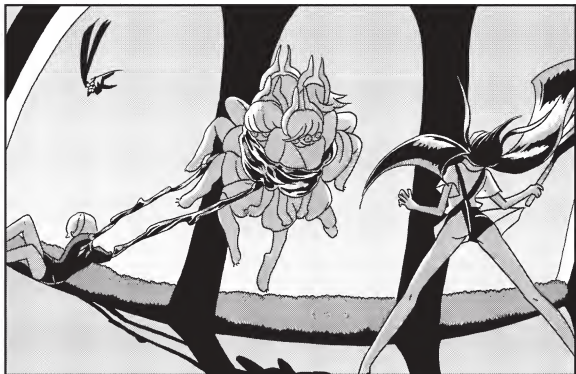


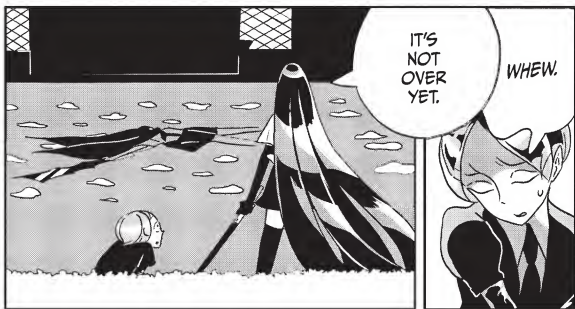
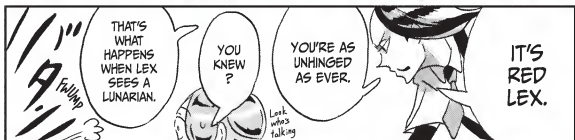
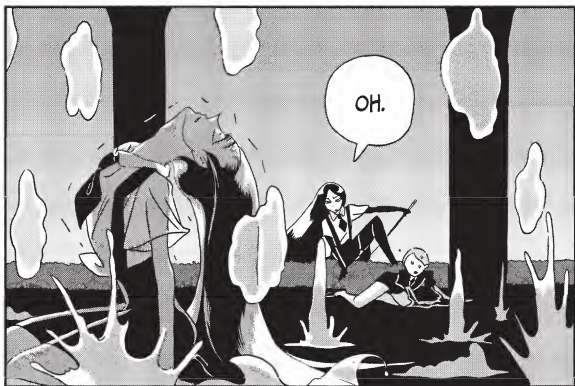


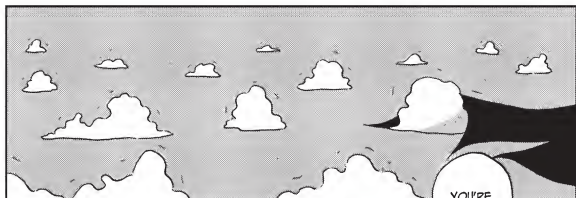








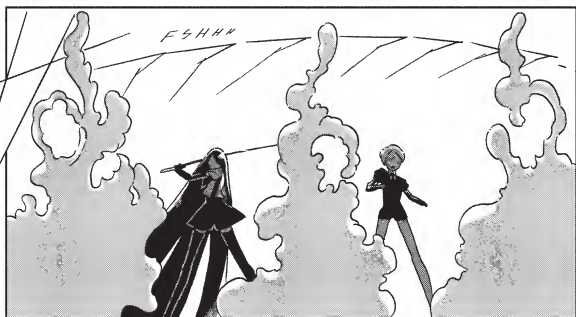




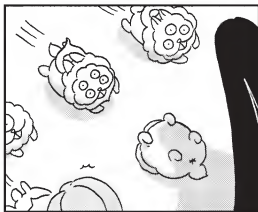
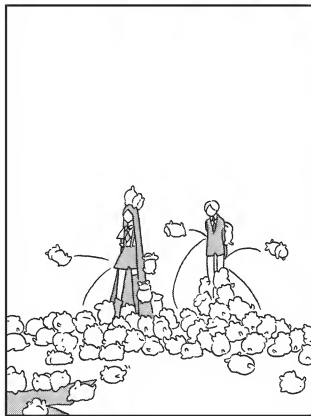
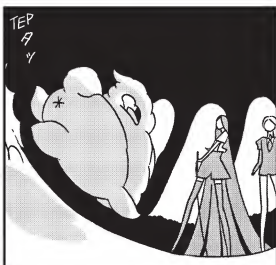
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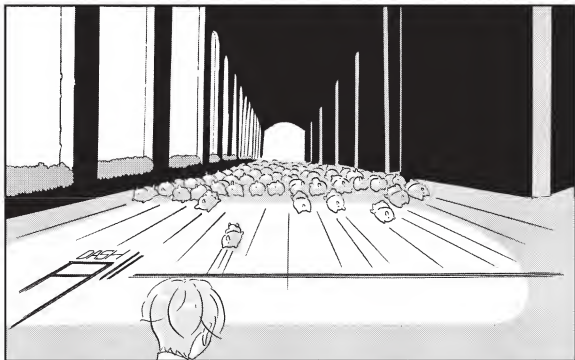


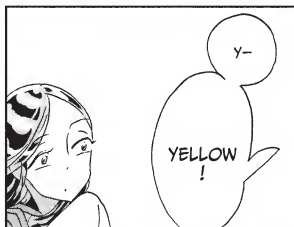
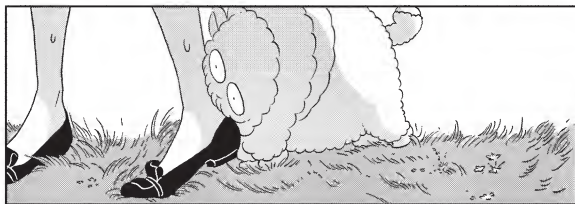
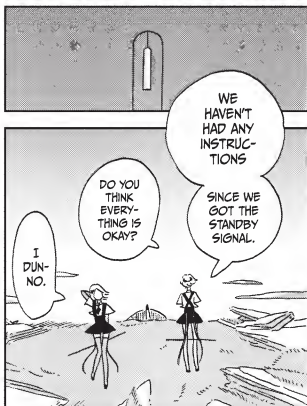
KID-
DING.

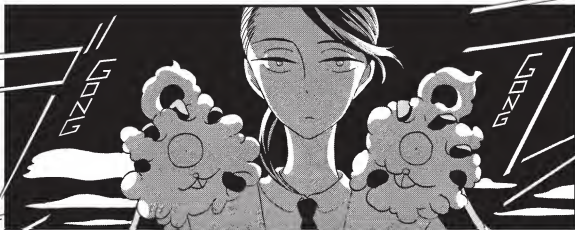
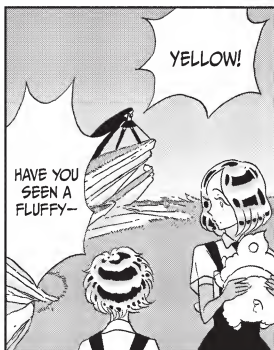


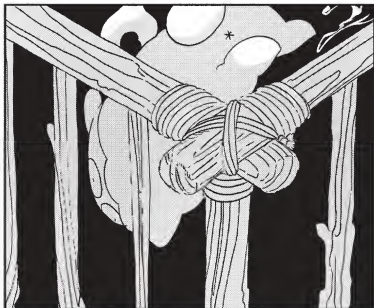


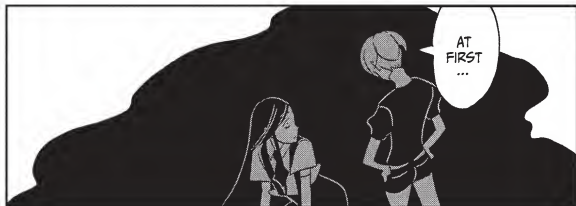
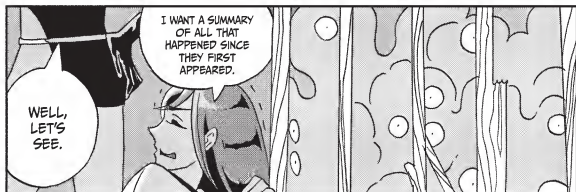
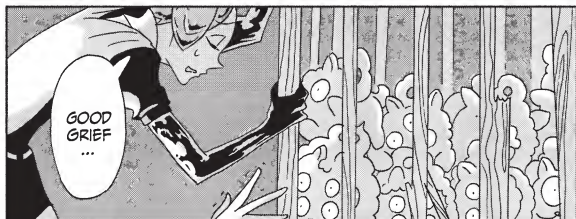








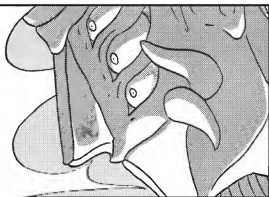




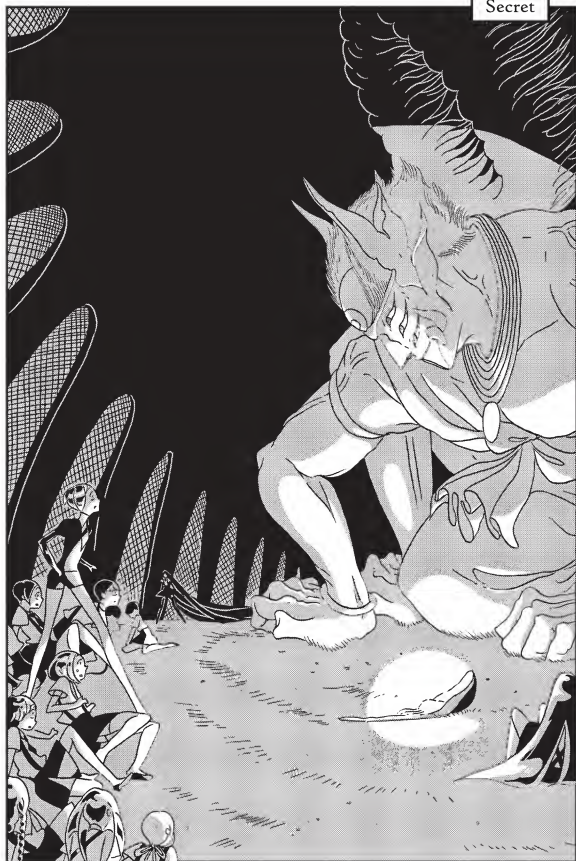


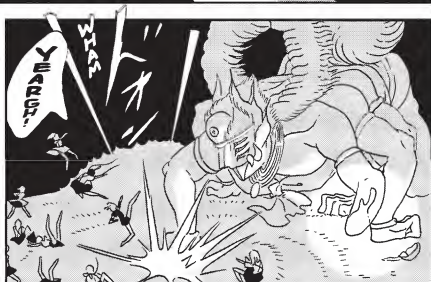


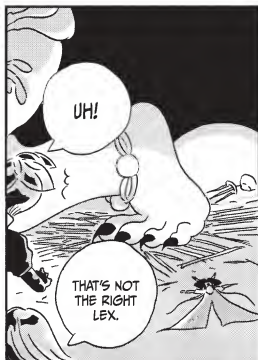
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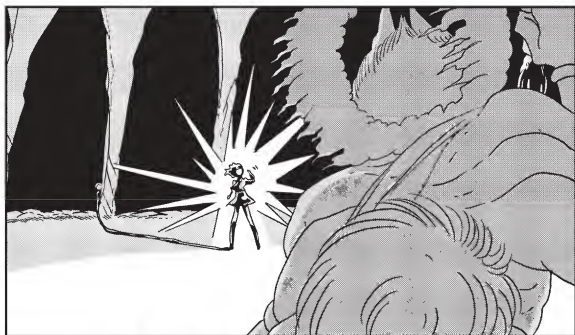






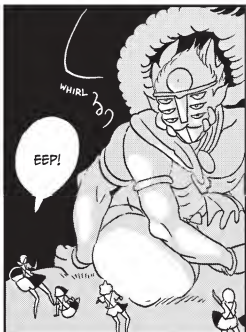
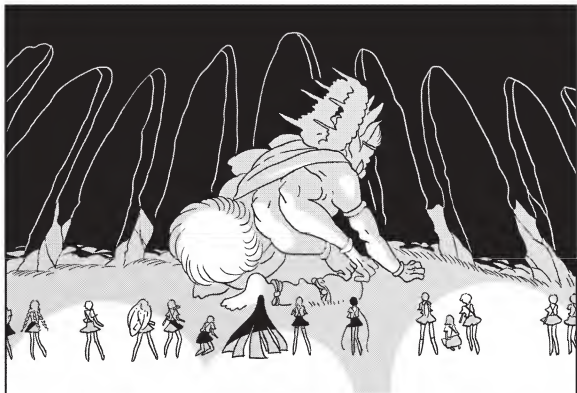


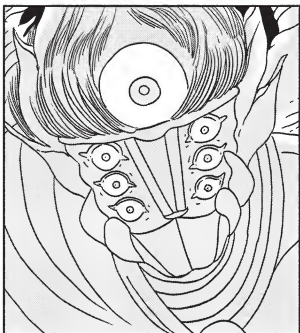
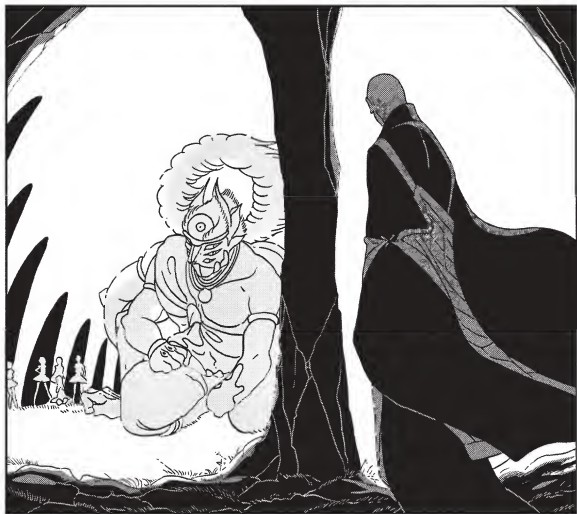




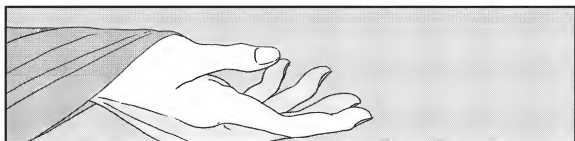


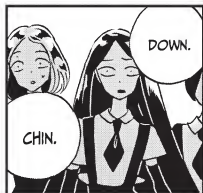




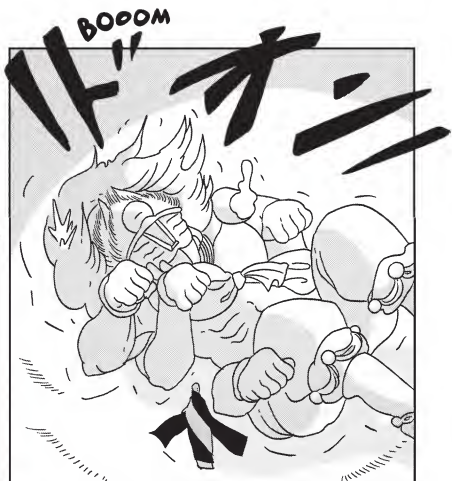


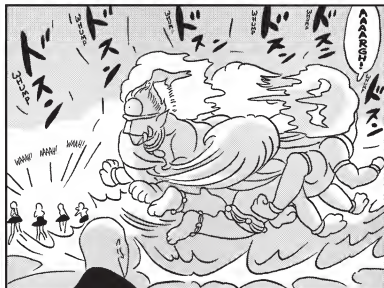
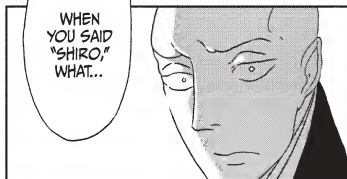


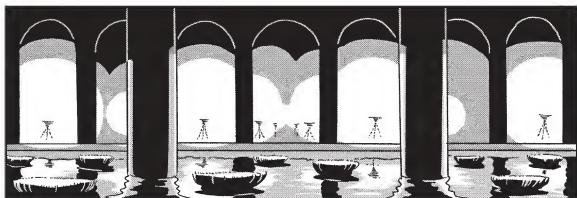


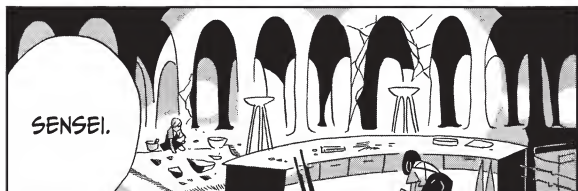


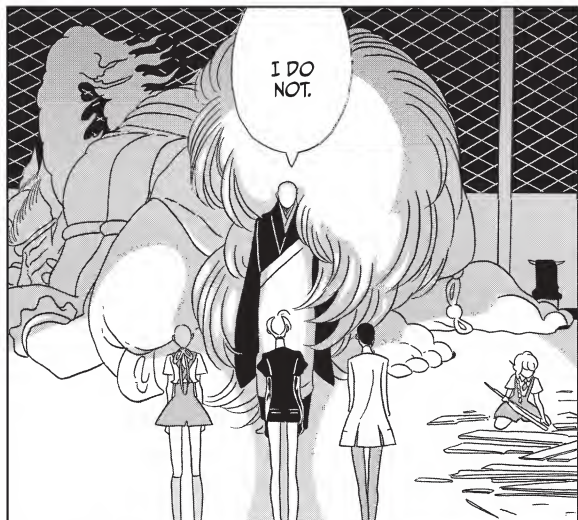


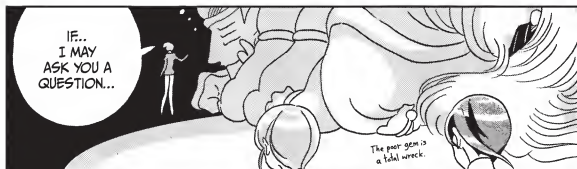












WHAT
HAPPENED
TO YOUR
PAW?

LOOK
AT YOU.

SHIRO.

AM I
GOING
CRAZY
?

HMMM.

I'M *SURE*
THAT'S WHAT
I HEARD.

YEAH.

IF SENSEI
REALLY DID
TALK TO IT
THAT WAY,



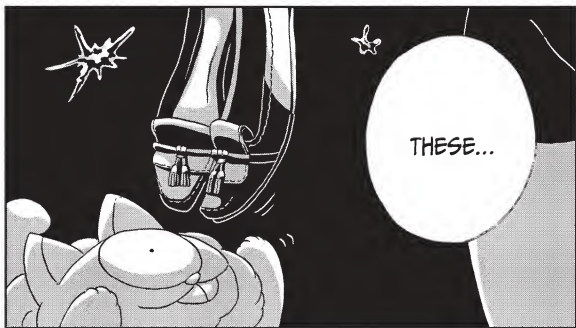
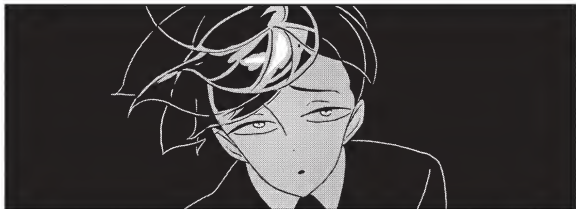


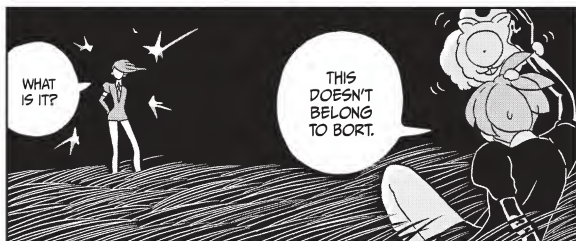
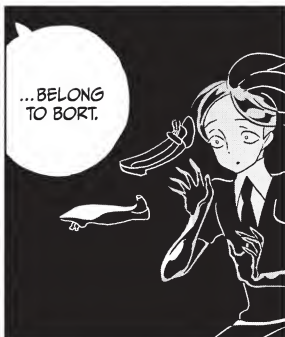


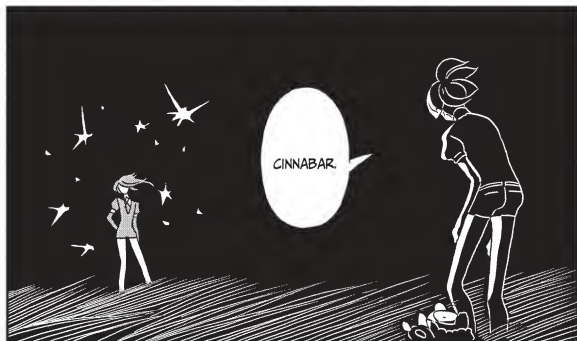










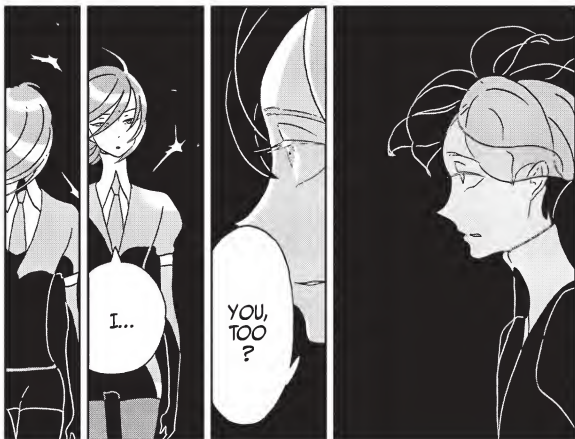




EVERYBODY
KNOWS.

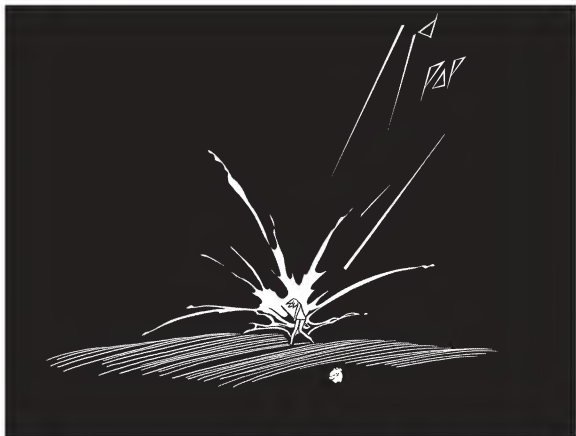






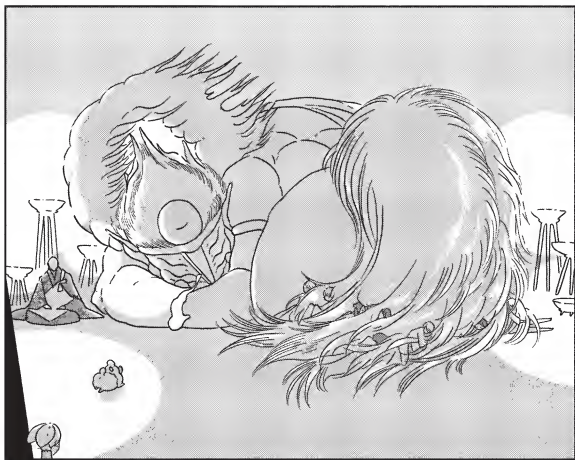


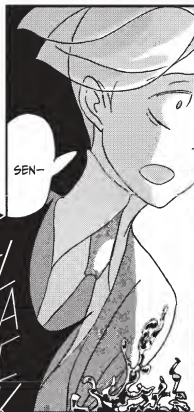
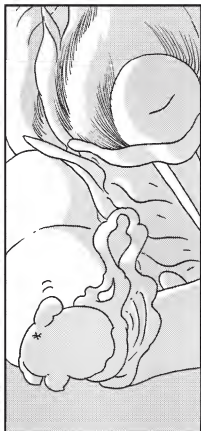
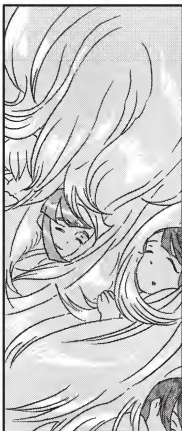


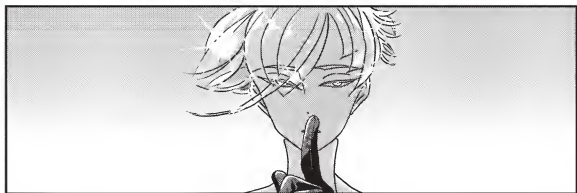
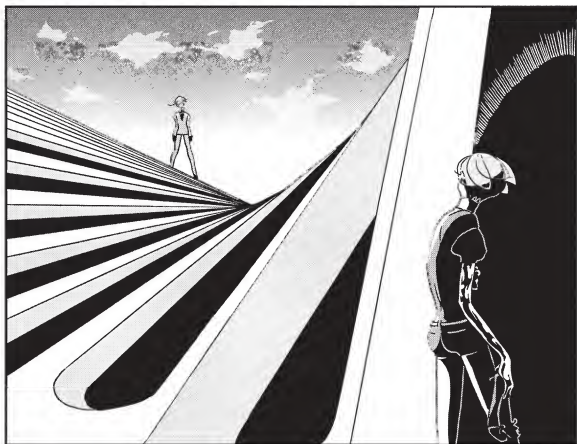




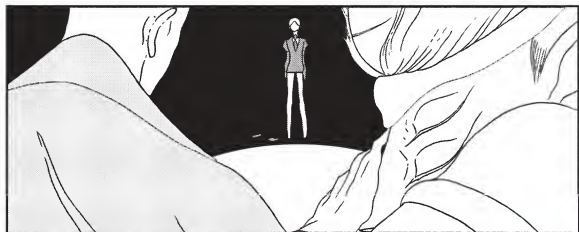
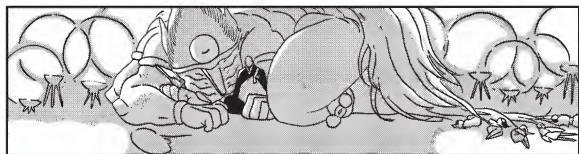
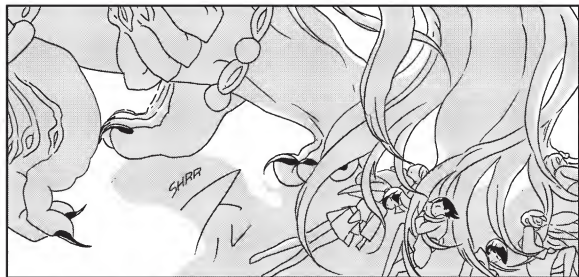






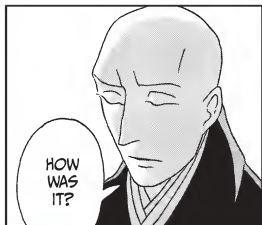




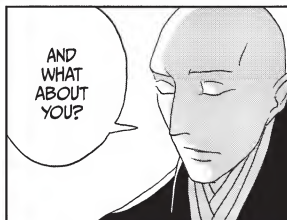
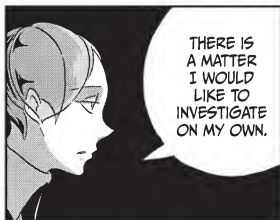
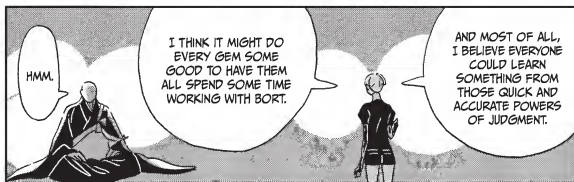
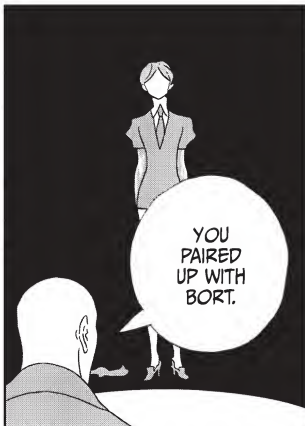




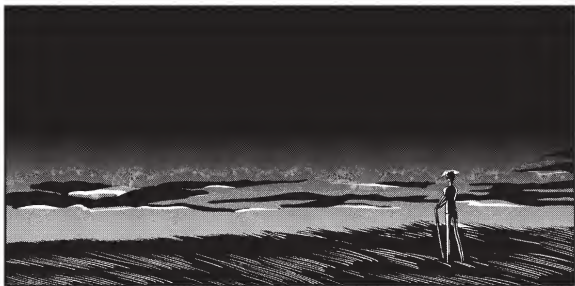




YES, SENSEI.

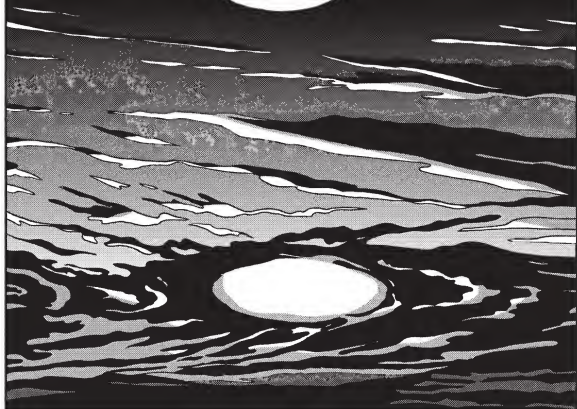








...IS TO
ASK THE
LUNARIANS
THEMSELVES.



LAND OF THE TRANSFORMATION

DO YOU
FEEL THE
CHAOS?

OF
COURSE.

IS THIS THE
EXPLANATION
?

SOME-
WHAT.

GOOD.

BASH

I GET THIS
ALL THE TIME,
SO I HAVE
PREPARED A
DEVICE TO HELP
EVERY GEM
UNDERSTAND.

CALL
ME
ALEX.

SO ALEX,
WHEN YOU SEE
A LUNARIAN HOW
DO YOU DECIDE
IF YOU'RE
GOING TO
TRANSFORM
OR FAINT?

HERE
IT IS.

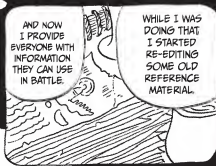
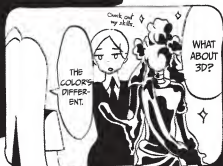
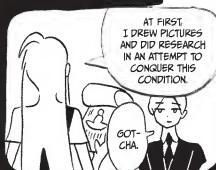
AND
THAT'S
HOW IT
WORKS.

SEE? IT
STOPPED
ON RED,
SO I'LL
TRANS-
FORM.

SCREECH

OF
COURSE
NOT.

YOU DIDN'T
TRANSFORM.



TRANSLATION NOTES

DIDI *page 116*

Here Bort refers to Diamond as *Nii-chan*, which is an affectionate nickname for an older sibling. All the other gems already refer to Diamond by the nickname *Dia*, so the translators attempted to indicate the closeness of their relationship with a new nickname, *Didi*. This name may sound a little cuter than one might expect from someone like Bort, but to a Japanese reader, so would *Nii-chan*.

ALEXANDRITE'S HAIR *page 128*

The mineral alexandrite is known for the alexandrite effect, which causes the gem to change color depending on the lighting in its vicinity. It varies depending on the variety, but generally the stone appears green or blue-green in natural daylight, but becomes red in incandescent light. Whether or not Alexi's color change has anything to do with the light emitted from Lunarians has yet to be revealed.

SHIRO *page 157*

Kongō-sensei appears to address this Lunarian with the Japanese word *shiro*, meaning "white." Colors are common names for pets in any language, but the true meaning behind Sensei's word remains unclear.

PART OF A LUNARIAN *page 171*

Cinnabar found the last piece of Shiro, making the total number of pieces 108. This particular number has some significance in many Asian cultures. The Japanese reader may recognize it as the number of times the bell rings at Buddhist temples on New Year's Eve. Some people believe that each ring can purify the hearer's heart of one of the 108 worldly desires. According to Buddhism, 108 is also the number of feelings a person can experience, calculated by multiplying the six senses (taste, touch, smell, hearing, sight, and consciousness) by whether it was a painful, neutral, or positive experience, again by whether it was internal or external, and finally by past, present, or future.



Land of the Lustrous 4

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

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